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THE COLLEGE VOICE

VOLUME XXIII • NUMBER 18

FRIDAY, APRIL 14, 2000

CONNECTICUT COLLEGE, NEW LONDON, CT

Eclipse Weekend Celebrates Silver Anniversary

By KATRINA CHAPMAN

staff writer

The term eclipse suggests a natural phenomenon, an event that causes awe and makes everyone pause to take notice. An eclipse is something unique, different from the everyday movement of the skies, an occurrence people plan for and get excited about. Eclipse Weekend here at Connecticut College is about all of these things.

The name has served to appropriately describe the events of Eclipse Weekend for the past twenty-five years. One couldn't help but feel awed by the history represented in the figures of faculty and alumni that gathered in Unity House on Friday, April 7, meant to bring together to share their recollections of the past 25 years of Eclipse Weekend history.

In attendance at the Silver Anniversary lunch were most of the people who first started the event, as well as many of those who continued to ensure its existence for twenty-five consecutive years.

Ernestine Brown worked at Unity House from 1969 through 1979 and was the person who first came up with the idea of a weekend for students of color to celebrate their diversity. She described how the weekend began, "When I was at the college, in order to get an excellent academic experience, students had to put minority concerns aside."

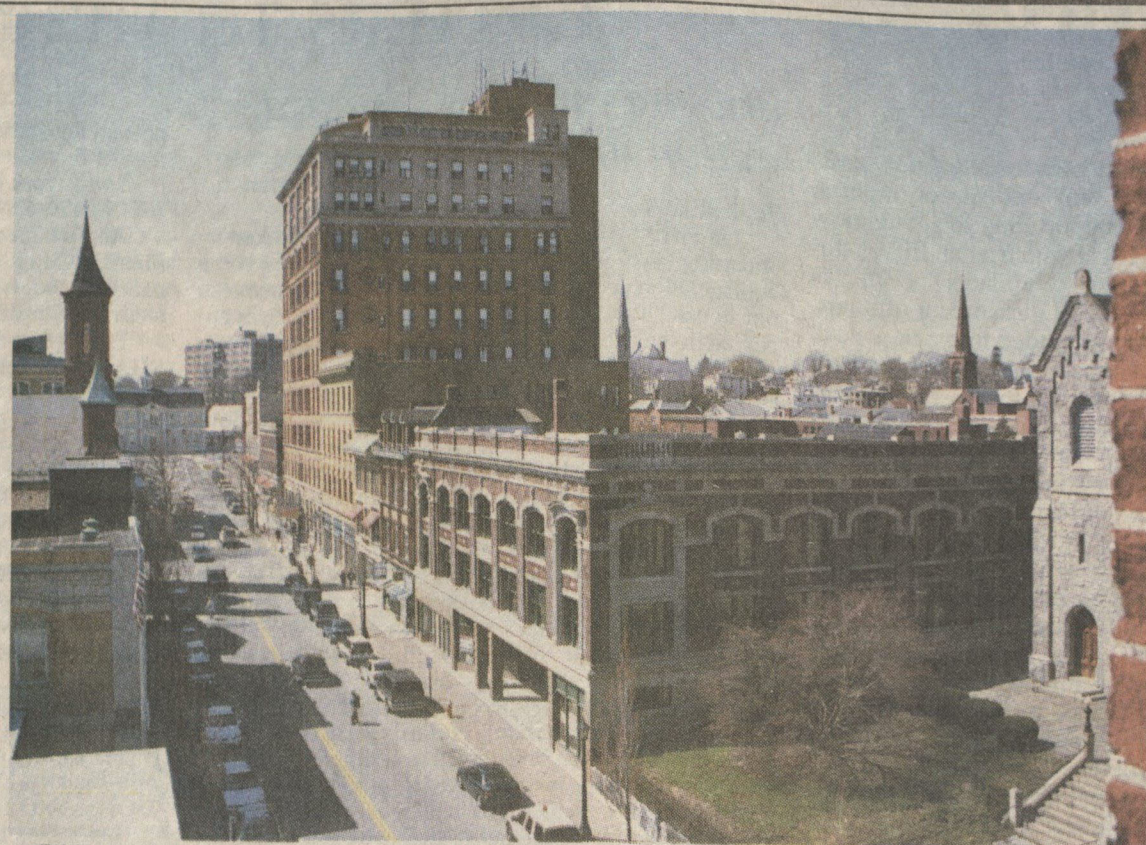
Brown encouraged students to maintain focus on academics but develop the idea for Eclipse Weekend as "a reward for having put the academic experience first." On this weekend, "their concerns would shadow all the other concerns," hence the term, eclipse. Brown summed up the original goal of Eclipse weekend, "Once a year you said 'I know who I am and I celebrate that.'"

Janet Foster helped to organize Eclipse Weekend from 1979-1981. She noted the evolution the weekend has undergone, "Every year it's bigger. Now Eclipse is truly a campus wide event...when in the beginning maybe it was less inclusive, now everybody is invited. It's such a celebration."

This Eclipse Weekend included events beginning Thursday night with a Silver Anniversary Dinner, with keynote speaker Robert Hampton, college dean from '86-'94. Events continued until Sunday with a service in Harkness Chapel to commemorate Martin Luther King Jr.

A highlight of the weekend was the annual Performing Arts and Fashion Show. Connecticut College and Coast Guard Academy students performed a variety of cultural dances, played music, recited poetry and organized skits that highlighted different fashion themes. The audience packed Evans Hall with people even lining the aisles to enjoy the hip, energized performances. Acts were

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City Council Rejects Use of Tax Credits to Finance Crocker/Bacon Renovations

NLDC calls it "the best plan possible."

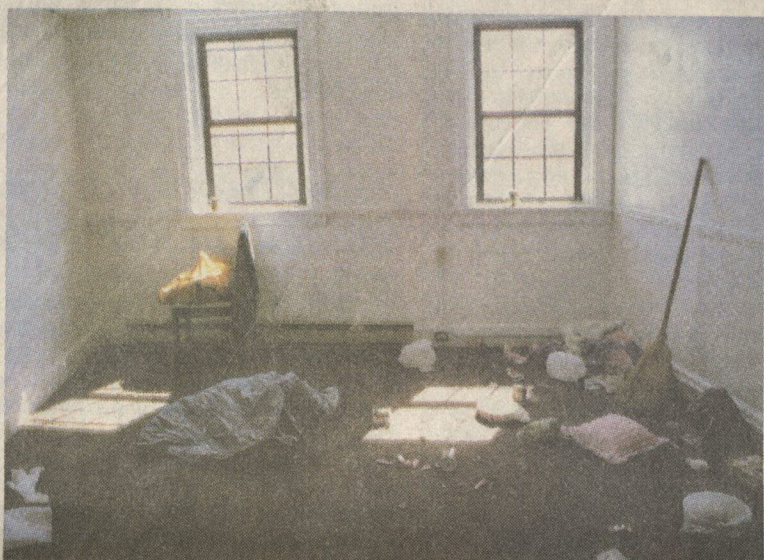
By ROB KNAKE

editor-in-chief

Two historic downtown New London properties face yet another obstacle in the road to redevelopment. The New London City Council voted against the New London Development Corporation (NLDC) proposal to use the low income tax credit program to finance renovations of the two State Street buildings.

The vote was the result of a State of Connecticut request, as part of its review of the NLDC's application to use the tax credit program to create 79 apartment units. The buildings were purchased with a \$1.8 million loan from Connecticut College and a \$1 million loan guarantee to a holding company, Cabrini Inc.

In December, the CBC Corporation, a group of private developers from Connecticut, withdrew from the redevelopment project after a period of due diligence. After examining the structures, the group determined that the project was not financially feasible for a small group of private investors.



Above: The view from the west face of the Crocker Building with the Mohegan Hotel in background. Below: A room in Crocker with evidence of an unwitting guest after the building was vacated in 1998. (Knake)

The cost of the renovations is estimated at \$15 million dollars while the value of the properties when renovated is not expected to exceed \$5 million.

Miguel Matos of the Fannie Mae Corporation calls the difference be-

tween the \$5 million that private lenders will finance and the total cost "the gap problem." Said Matos, "We at Fannie Mae have provided our expertise to NLDC

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CCASA Hosts Asian Awareness Month

By TRANG NGUGEN

staff writer

Have you noticed the big banner in Cro? It's Asian Awareness Month. Asian Awareness Month, which is officially Asian Pacific American Heritage Month, has been celebrated all over the United States annually. It originated on May 7, 1990, when President Bush signed a proclamation establishing May as this month of celebration.

The proclamation was passed in honor of the accomplishments and contributions of Asian and Pacific Americans who have immigrated to the United States in the last two centuries, and who have helped enrich

American culture.

Connecticut College Asian/American Student Association (CCASA), has been joining the nation in the celebration. However, instead of celebrating it in May, the college has been staging this event every April due to class scheduling.

The theme for this year is "When West meets East: bridging the cultural gap." The CCASA chair, Ryan Chan said, "In American culture, you can find the impacts of the East and vice versa."

CCASA has been working hard to get this accomplished. They have been researching and organizing for the entire year to make sure everything is well coordinated. The Korean Drumming at Unity House kicked off the month. As well, a classical South

Indian music concert and a cultural dialogue were co-sponsored by CCASA and Students Organized Against Racism (SOAR).

CCASA tried to cover many cultures such as India, Korea, China and Vietnam with different types of programs, including art performances, cultural dialogues, movies, documentaries, comedy shows and talks by CC professors, as well as guest speakers.

Some upcoming events include a comedy performance and workshop by New York comedian Eliot Chung on April 18, and CCASA's annual featuring of Asian homemade food. In addition, there will be lectures given by professors Priyamvada Gopal of the English department and Alexis Dudden of the history department.

Floralia Review Task Force/Student Life Clash Over Age Identifying Bracelets

Administration goes ahead with plan

By ROB KNAKE

editor-in-chief

Members of the Floralia Review Task Force are vehemently opposed to an administration plan that will require all students to wear color-coded bracelets at Floralia, thus allowing campus safety to quickly identify underage drinkers.

The Office of Student Life plans to distribute bracelets in five different colors that will identify of-age students, underage students, of-age guests, underage guests and alumni. In past years, bracelets were used only to identify students and guests.

The all-student task force was set up by Associate Dean of Student Life and chairperson of the health promotion risk reduction committee (HPRR) Kristin Cyr Goodwin and Student Activities Director Scott McEver. The committee members included housefellow, governors, senators, members of HPRR and the Alcohol Policy Review Committee.

In a letter to Amy O'Donnell, student activities coordinator (SAC) Chair, and Minor Myers, student government association (SGA) president, Goodwin and McEver stated that "a number of problems have been associated with this traditional event. These include overconsumption of alcohol, underage drinking, drug use and a cultural acceptance for the day." The letter continued to list trash and vandalism on the campus grounds and in the College Center, problems with alumni and guests, and significant liability issues.

The committee responded to the request to look at these issues by approving a number of measures other than use of wristbands, including confining open containers to the library green, prohibiting the use of enclosed tents and shelters, and offering a wider variety of food for a longer period. The committee also recommended limiting down time by introducing more activities and setting up two stages to have a more continuous flow of performances.

The administration will implement these proposals but disagrees with the students' arguments against the age-identifying wrist bands.

Tim Frankel '00, a member of the Floralia Review Task Force and of HPRR, explained that the task force members objected to the bracelets because of fears that they might increase binge drinking and associated dangerous behaviors. "We rejected it because of the issue of underage people returning to their rooms and binge drinking because they were afraid to drink socially and responsibly on the green," said Frankel.

Amy O'Donnell explained that the task force favored a behavior and health based approach to dealing with drinking at Floralia instead of targeting underage students. Said O'Donnell, "We support having better food, less down time between sets and more activities so people aren't sitting out in the sun all day just drinking."

Other task force members were

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Conn Students Win Prestigious Fellowships

By AMILIE BAUDOT

staff writer

Nine Connecticut College students were able to make it to the final stages of selection for four renowned post grad fellowships this year. These fellowships are the U.S. Fulbright Program, the Luce Scholars Program, the Harry S. Truman Scholarship and the Thomas J. Watson Fellowship. These are highly selective national fellowships, and reaching the final stages of the selection for these fellowships is truly an honor.

Fulbright is a program designed to give recent BA/BS graduates who want to become masters and doctoral candidates a chance for an international academic experience. Congress created the Fulbright program in 1946, after World War II, to foster mutual understanding among nations through educational and cultural exchanges. The grantees plan their own projects, then apply to study in a specific country (the Fulbright allows Americans to study in over 100 nations).

Most projects involve university course work, independent library or field research or classes in a music conservatory at an art school. The program gives the student a stipend for the year if they are accepted both

by the US, and the country they have chosen. Each country in the program gives out a certain number of Fulbright scholarships per year.

Three seniors reached the final stages of selection for the Fulbright program out of seven seniors nominated by Conn. These students are Thomas Garrison, Eleni Lampadario and Jake Lundberg.

Tom who is an anthropology major planned to study the hieroglyphics of the ancient Maya in Mexico.

Eleni Lampadario is a Russian and an Eastern European Studies major whose proposed project is to analyze the development of a Macedonian Slav National identity, through the study of elementary and secondary school textbooks from the late 19th century to today. She hopes to study at the university in Skopje, the capital of Macedonia.

The Thomas J. Watson Fellowship provides fellows an opportunity for a focused study of a particular project for one year in the country of their choice. Students devise their own creative project, which can be anything from studying the development of a British rock band to the study of women in Islamic cultures. The Watson foundation hopes that the fellows will then be able to view their

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OPINION

Voice demands changes to SGA election process, Avorn defends self, Kreit and bird seed, WoodBrooks on Health Services, Miner on Shared Governance, opposes health services cutback, letters on Avorn, Shared Governance and Trinity, Crosley on boredom, Cohen on Drugs.

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Esther of Freeman Dining Hall serves up something more than Steak Thai Juan at the 3rd Annual Garde Arts Food and Wine Festival

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SGA Hopefuls Speak Their Minds on the Eve of Elections

Connecticut College will soon be joining the wave of elections that has recently swept Russia, Greece, Georgia, Bosnia and Peru. On the 20th and 21st of April, the Connecticut College students will cast their ballots to choose the SGA Executive Board members and Young Alumni Trustees for the academic year 2000-2001. follow the YAT/SGA Executive Board

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Talk Addresses Attitudes Towards Vulnerability

By ARIELLE GREENLIEF

staff writer

Last Wednesday night, Margaret Sheridan, the Martha Bennett '73 Professor of Child Development in the department of human development here at CC, presented a lecture entitled "Issues of Cultural Ambivalence Toward Vulnerability." In attendance was Martha Sheridan '73, founder of the endowed chair, and her husband Frank.

Sheridan was given an honorable introduction by President Claire Gaudiani who then thanked Ms. Bennett and her husband for their donation to the school. "I feel very honored to give the money to the Connecticut College family," said Bennett.

Although Bennett and Sheridan were never in attendance together at CC, explained Gaudiani, their paths crossed in later years. Bennett has been a national advocate for children with disabilities and quickly became friends with Sheridan after she learned about her programs for children with disabilities here at CC.

Sheridan received her doctoral degree from UConn before becoming a professor here. She has put all her effort into a program for children with special needs. She has been active in regional, national and international activities and has also been a trainer of foster parents for special needs children. After receiving a



Marth Bennett '73 introduces Margaret Sheridan before her lecture "Issues of Cultural Ambivalence Toward Vulnerability." (Brown)

standing ovation, Sheridan was given the floor.

"This night has been a real highlight for me," Sheridan modestly said. "Thank you to Muffy, Frank and Claire. All I can say is that I hope you students out there get a chance like this professionally because it's very, very nice."

Sheridan began her lecture by listing those people who are most commonly treated inferior. Women, children, workers and people with disabilities are often treated in the same

manner. Although society is making efforts to include people with disabilities, there is still room for improvement.

According to Sheridan, one in ten people are unable to talk, see or hear, and nearly two million people are in wheelchairs. A large number of people with disabilities are children in poverty stricken families. One in ten school children are mentally retarded or have a speech or hearing impairment which requires special schooling.

Sheridan then addressed the former institutionalization of the disabled. Prior to de-institutionalization it was immoral to be disabled. Family members of the disabled searched their family histories to find out who was personally responsible for the disability.

Mainstreaming began in the 1970's and disabled citizens were given their own parking places and Braille menus were provided. Then public education laws and American with Disabilities Act were put into effect.

Sheridan then asked the audience to direct their attention to a brief segment from a TV show in England. We were asked to watch an interview with a woman suffering from cerebral palsy. The interviewer asked the lady what it was like living in a home for disabled people. It was nearly impossible to understand the woman with her speech impediment.

Many people, when asked afterward, said that the interview made them uncomfortable. President Gaudiani said, "Watching the woman struggle to explain herself was awesome, to watch her struggle and persevere."

Sheridan ended her lecture by stating instead of institutionalizing these people, we must try to include them in our society and give them back their humanity, independence and individuality.

Editorial/Opinion

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FRIDAY, APRIL 14, 2000

SGA Election Process Marred by Apathy; Reforms Necessary

Connecticut College is a school which prides itself on being a student-run community. The student Judiciary Board, the Honor Code, and especially the Student Government Association (SGA) are supposed to ensure that students are involved in campus issues. Unfortunately, the students at Connecticut College do not take the SGA seriously.

A large part of the reason why the SGA is not taken as seriously as it should be can be understood by examining the way in which SGA elections take place. While students are supposed to care about the SGA elections and be involved in choosing the right student for each SGA position, this is not the way the process actually works. There are many problems with the current SGA election system which weaken the overall strength of the SGA as a governing body.

The first problem is that the whole process takes place too quickly for students to be able to make informed, well-thought-out decisions before they have to vote. In the current system students declare their candidacy for SGA positions on Sunday night, speeches are made on Tuesday, and the campus community votes on Thursday and Friday. With less than a week to ponder the candidates, how can students expect to take the whole SGA election process seriously?

The compressed election period is a problem be-

cause it does not allow students to truly get to know the candidates. There is only one speech night at which students have the opportunity to get to know the candidates. One night at which a handful of students might be able to hear candidates speeches is not a positive way of electing our student officials. If the whole process was extended into a two week period, rather than one week, there could be three or four speech nights ensuring that a greater percentage of students would be able to make informed decisions on voting day.

Another way to allow students to get to know the candidates better would be to lift the spending cap on campaigns. Currently, candidates can spend a maximum of fifty dollars on their campaigns. Fifty dollars just barely covers the cost of producing posters and putting a few ads in the Conntact. Why not erase the spending limit so that students could campaign more creatively? Campaign buttons, flyers distributed to student mailboxes, and other creative means of campaigning would be possible if the spending limit were lifted.

It would be in everyone's best interest if the Student Government Association were truly the voice of the students. In order to make the SGA more representative of the students, changes must be made to the current SGA election process.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Student opposes J-Board action in Kaplan case

To the Editor

I am writing in response to the action being taken by Jboard against Steven Kaplan. Thursday, March 30th a confrontation occurred on the third floor of JA between our housefellow, Arik De, and Steven Kaplan. Arik appeared in the hallway incensed over a simple noise complaint, waving write-up slips in the air like a mad man. In reaction to the unnecessary, confrontational and immature behavior exhibited by our "blameless" housefellow, Stephen Kaplan became irate himself, saying foolish and hurtful things to Arik. This is where the action ends. Instead of handling their disagreement adult to adult, Arik ran to Residential Life and JBoard, exaggerating the event and eliciting sympathy as he now feels "threatened" by the 5'7" Steven. Jboard now "recommends" that Steven be removed from campus, not simply the dorm, and not only until Arik graduates but until graduation 2001. I believe this action to be biased, heavy handed, and inconceivable. Steven's behavior is in no way excusable and I am the first to agree that he be reprimanded, however hours in Harris seem better suited to the incident. What boils down to a simple scuffle between boys, where no one was hurt or even physically confronted has escalated tremendously and incredibly could have serious ramifications to Steven's future. In my opinion Jboard's decision is recklessly vindictive. They gave no thought to the implications of their decision on Financial Aid and the educational future of a diligent student. If Jboard feels the need to flex its judiciary muscles, I would advise them in the future to choose a less one-sided case that actually warrants such harsh action. As a Conn College student I cringe at the precedent this ruling establishes and feel that only two messages result; 1- don't ever have a disagreement with your housefellow and 2- don't believe Jboard weighs both sides of a conflict equally.

-Carrie Henry '01

WoodBrooks defends student health care changes

To the Editor:

While I am sympathetic to the concerns raised in last week's editorial "24-Hour Health Services too Vital for Shutdown" outlining The Voice's justifications for maintaining round-the-clock health services, I was taken back when I read that one of the two overriding issues was "care for students who have too much to drink." The other issue - a location for students who are too ill to stay in their rooms - is certainly one we will examine seriously. Some alternatives under consideration include: 1) designated dorm space for those who need isolation for a mild illness; 2) volunteer EMTs; and 3) live-in professional staff.

As I stated in my letter to the editor last week, students are positioned to make the most significant difference in solving drug and alcohol abuse problems on campus. This does not mean that the college in any way absolves itself of its responsibility; most certainly, we will be developing ways for those in need to be transported safely to a health care facility. Yet, the college does not want to provide a false sense of security.

A student who is truly in dire need of health services would benefit greatly from a system designed to transport them immediately to a top-rate hospital for emergency room assessment and services. In the past, students who have been most at risk are those found unattended and incapacitated. Because a medical professional can best determine the severity of an alcohol- and/or drug-induced patient, an extra stop at on-campus health services could jeopardize their lives.

Providing a safe haven where students can drop-off those who have abused drugs or alcohol is tantamount to encouraging irresponsible drug and alcohol use. This flies in the face of everything our college community is about: personal responsibility, caring for our neighbors, academic excellence. More importantly, though, such a policy could put a student's health at risk and, though less importantly, could position the college for legal and ethical challenges.

College is a time when students can hope to acquire not only academic acumen, but also personal maturity. Taking responsibility for one's actions is one of the first steps toward those goals. If a student finds his or herself in the unfortunate position of a life-threatening dose of alcohol and/or drugs, the best place for him or her to go is straight to a well-equipped hospital emergency room.

-Catherine WoodBrooks
Dean of Student Life

"On Your Side" Brendan Meehan for Vice President

To the Editor:

The slogan "On Your Side" was chosen because it is the foundation of my campaign ideals and personal beliefs. If elected, my goal will be to actively discuss, represent, and pursue issues that have a direct impact on the student body.

The Executive Board works closely with the Student Government Assembly to represent students. Legislation and letters of opinion formulated by the assembly are used by the administration and faculty to gauge student opinion on campus wide issues. This structure is the concept of shared governance, which in my opinion, needs to be reworked and strengthened so that students are taken seriously.

My current involvement in SGA as senator has given me a valuable working knowledge of SGA operations and opened my eyes to concerns that need to be addressed very soon. I would like to announce the following platform as the basis of my campaign for SGA Vice President:

1. REFORM SHARED GOVERNANCE. It is high time that students are taken seriously on this campus. Our thoughts and concerns can prove valuable to the administration and faculty if they are given consideration.

2. KEEP STUDENTS INFORMED. When SGA discusses and legislates, I want the Student Body to know what was said. When the administration comes before the assembly with important financial issues or policy changes, the STUDENTS SHOULD KNOW WHAT HAPPENED.

3. ADVOCATE CHANGE. Change can be good. If something has to happen here at Conn, let's make sure it will benefit us, THE STUDENTS.

4. MOVE CRITICAL ISSUES FORWARD. If im-

portant legislation comes before the assembly, it must be moved forward and presented effectively.

I will work hard to make sure important LEGISLATION MOVES FORWARD and is not mulled over.

As Vice President, I would also serve as Chair of the Finance Committee, making me responsible for the finance of student clubs and activities. Additionally, I would chair the Constitution Committee. In this capacity I will:

1. Propose a SOUND, THOROUGH BUDGET for SGA and student clubs. Money is important to the vitality of clubs and activities on campus. Sound thinking and good financial policy will produce a strong budget.

2. Work closely with in debt clubs to GET THEM OUT OF THE RED. Since the strength of many clubs relies on their financial situation, I will work to resolve financial difficulties to get them UP AND RUNNING AGAIN.

3. SUPPORT AND WORK TOGETHER with new clubs on Campus. The Constitution Committee works with new clubs to form their constitution and membership guidelines. I WILL SUPPORT NEW, DYNAMIC CLUBS.

I believe this platform to be representative of what students would want in a proactive SGA Vice President. If elected, my goal is to implement the above platform. Additionally, I will ALWAYS BE OPEN TO SUGGESTIONS AND IMPROVEMENTS.

Let's face it, strong policy by and for the students could be a challenge, but it is a challenge I AM WILLING TO FACE. If this is our goal, and we want it bad enough, I sincerely believe we can all work together to strengthen our campus culture and community.

Brendan Meehan for SGA Vice President: ON YOUR SIDE.

Brendan Meehan
Candidate for SGA Vice President

Conn students need 24-hour health services

To the Editor:

About two months ago I developed a tonsillar abscess. My right tonsil swelled up to the size of a kiwi. At 4:30 on Friday morning, I hauled myself over to health services and was greeted by a genuinely caring woman on the red-eye shift. In my state of fever induced delirium I never got her name, but I would like to thank her all the same. I ended up spending all weekend in the infirmary. The swelling in my tonsil did not go down until the following Tuesday. All weekend long there was someone there to care for me, make sure that I was comfortable, make sure I had medication, make sure that my esophagus was still open and I was still breathing, stuff like that.

Three weeks ago, on a Saturday night my neighbor had a little too much to drink; she was on the floor in a pool of her own vomit and crying for help. I suppose that I could of sat with her all night. Or perhaps, considering I was in an only semi-drunk state, I could have attempted to drive her to the hospital. But it was just more convenient to be able to take her to health services and leave her in the hands of professionals. I have never seen health services packed wall to wall with the ill. In fact, the weekend I spent at the infirmary, I was accompanied by only one other student who spent the whole weekend there. He was recovering from surgery. But one must also keep in mind that this is not a refugee camp; health services won't be filled with the sick and the maimed. However, when one is sick, and when that sickness has decided to rear its ugly head at an inconvenient hour (i.e. not between the hours of nine to five) it is more than reassuring to know that there is somewhere, close by, that one can go to. 24-hour health service is one of the things that makes our school better than others.

This year our school is 11 million dollars in the hole. Those debts get paid out of our endowment. Cutting our standard of living is not going to help the school get out of its financial problems; better judgment is. Perhaps, if Claire wishes to save the college money she should avoid hiring known, financial incompetents to be vice-president for administration. Perhaps she should stop using college money to try (and fail) to bring her downtown New London/CC integration fantasies to fruition. But I am quite sure that health services and the nice, competent lady who took care of me when I was really sick are not the reason this school was over-spent by 11 million dollars. I would expect Stalin to go after health care. I expect a little better judgment from Gaudiani.

Ben Voce-Gardner '02

Student Requests Inter-collegiate Aid to Help Venezuelan crisis

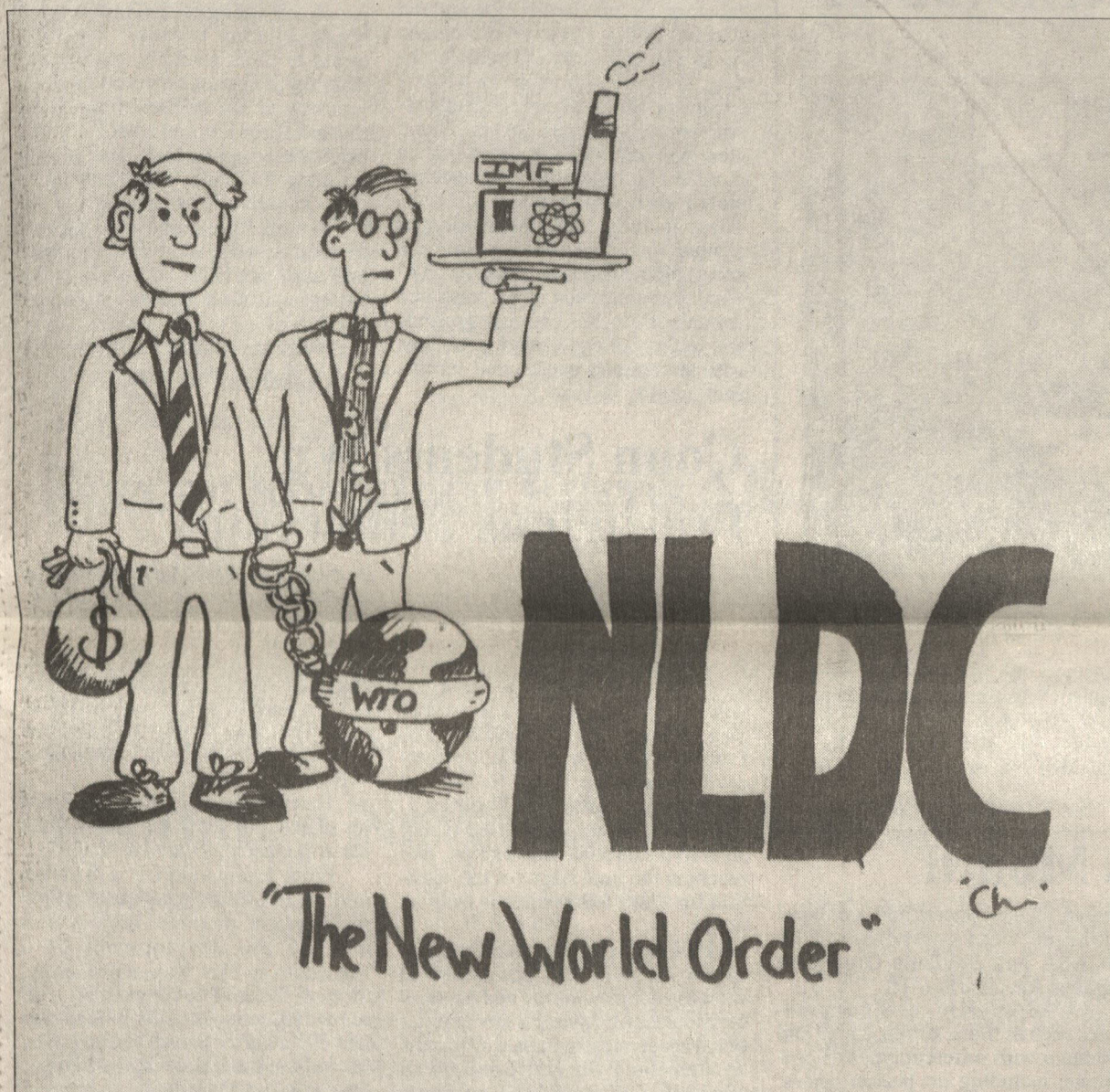
To the Editor:

On December 16, 1999 Venezuela was hit by one of the worst natural disasters in the history of Latin America. Intense rainfall led to the devastation of many towns on the Northern coast of Venezuela due to severe flooding. According to the Venezuelan consulate web site "...there is an estimate of more than 30,000 [people] dead and 400,000 homeless." One of the facilities most affected by this tragedy is La Universidad Simón Bolívar in El Litoral, which is the branch of the university that accommodates the agricultural buildings. The students, faculty, and staff residing in the vicinity were deeply affected due to the loss of vital necessities such as drinking water, food, and shelter.

Taking into consideration the magnitude of the events, the Connecticut College Task Force Committee has established the Venezuelan Relief Fund. Its main purpose is to provide monetary support by directing its funds towards the students in most need. Plans have already been set in motion, and collections have been made during the last weeks at various events.

The intent of this movement is to bring forth campus awareness in international issues. Not only will we help the Venezuelan students, but we will also develop a network enhancing Connecticut College's vision of "glocalization," which stems from our goal of broadening the relationship to international sister colleges. Feel free to contact me at X4423 or ddcar@conncoll.edu for more information on how you can contribute to this noble cause. You can also talk to your house governors whom have done an extraordinary job in bringing forth this issue.

Daniel Carrero '01



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OPINION

Are You Having a Bad Day?

NATE AVORN

CLOSE COVER BEFORE STRIKING



When the day is long and the night is yours alone; when you're sure you've had enough of this life, well hang on. Don't let yourself go. Everybody cries, and everybody hurts sometimes. Sometimes everything is wrong. Now, it's time to sing along. When your day is night alone, hold on. Hold on. If you feel like letting go, hold on. When you think you've had too much of this life, well, hang on.

Everybody hurts. Take comfort in your friends. Don't throw your hand. If you feel like you're alone; no, you are not alone. If you're on your own in this life, and the days and nights are long; when you think you've had too much of this life to hang on, well, everybody hurts sometimes. Everybody cries. And everybody hurts sometimes. So, hold on. Hold on. Hold on! You are not alone.

In those words, from the song "Everybody Hurts," are the most important kernels of ideas that I have tried to convey at one time or another, with limited success. It goes without saying that I am not as cool as Michael Stipe. He's an artist, and what he conveys in his music is wise. He can communicate in the space of one song the complicated beliefs and ideas that I hold in a deep, blurry place; ideas that would take me hours to try to explain.

I once wrote and rewrote a play called "Who's Happy?" It eventually evolved into a short story, and then back into a play. The whole time, I was trying to nail

down certain ideas, ideas that "Everybody Hurts" conveys with a simple keening eloquence. I heard that song during my ninth or tenth revision, and I just about gave up on the play. I couldn't stand the idea that someone would hear the song on the radio and realize that my play could only clumsily drag a reader's mind to the place where Stipe transports his/her heart in five minutes and twenty seconds of bittersweet tenderness.

The fact is, opposites define each other. You can't have day without night. For the same reason, you can't have a good life if things don't suck sometimes. Just empathizing with someone else's struggles isn't enough to make you really appreciate how good things are going when things are going good. Real happiness can come only from the experience of pain. That's a handy little mantra that you can use on those five alarm, "failed a midterm, got dumped, lost my keys, have the flu, got turned down for a job, please put me out of my misery" days that come along once in a while.

We've all had those days, days when we'd have been glad to have some happiness, real, or unreal, or make believe, or whatever. But, if you've never had a truly terrible day, you are unable appreciate what a really good day is. Not that that makes you feel any better on a bad day. But everybody hurts, sometimes.

American Beauty: A Not So Beautiful Look at Contemporary America

JESSE ERDHEIM

FILM CRITIC

American Beauty is one of the finest acted movies I have ever seen. It is one of the best directed movies I have ever seen. It is one of the best written movies I have ever seen. And I hated every second of it. I missed getting an advanced peak at American Beauty when it was first released earlier in the year and had to view it at the film society's showing last week. Maybe my opinions of the movie were influenced by all of the praise and critical acclaim surrounding the movie. But, probably not. The film has been hailed as brilliant in its portrayal of suburban life in America today and its illustration of what happens when lost souls try to reclaim their lives. Remember, it won many academy awards, including Best Picture. My major question is, what does this mean?

Granted this is not the America of fifty years ago, characterized by a Leave It to Beaver mentality, where children actually respect their parents and participate in enriching activities. But, family life seems to be spiraling out of control these days. No longer do children come home and work on their homework, instead they pick up a video camera and monitor the activities of their neighbors. It would appear now that the hip thing is to be dysfunctional and cynical. Hate your father? That's old news. Want to kill him, now you're cool. I find it terrifying that I seem to be the only person that finds this notion tragic.

Essentially, the film is about how society shapes peoples lives and deprives them of the joy they need to survive. It centers on Lester Burnham (Kevin Spacey) and how he quits his job and reclaims his freedom and independence as he loafs around the house all day. His wife, Carolyn (Annette Bening) is too focused on her real estate career that she does not have time to talk with her daughter and has no interest in sexually pleasing her husband. Their daughter Jane (Thora Birch) spends her time contemplating her body and saves her money for breast implants. Her friend, Angela (Mena Suvari) is a self-obsessed snob who becomes the object of Lester's infatuation. The Burnhams neighbors include a drug-dealing teenage boy, Ricky (Wes Bentley) that videotapes Jane, and his ex-marine father (Chris Cooper) that drug tests Ricky every six months in addition to physically beating him every so often.

If this is a realistic take on modern society, then ladies and gentlemen I am ashamed to be living through these times. Clearly, there are a lot of problems with American families today that need to be resolved. For example, who would argue that parents need to spend more time in their children's lives and reacquaint themselves with the traditional ideas of parenting? However, the filmmakers would have you believe that the suburbs are really as dysfunctional as the cities. I grew up in a suburb of Washington, on a street much like that of the Burnhams, and I concede my neighborhood had its share of problems. I had drug dealers living across the street from me and an abusive alcoholic plumber living next door. Yet, the majority of my neighbors resembled my parents, stable and ordinary working people who cared for their children and tried to make a positive difference in society. In these homes, everything was as it appeared

on the outside.

One of my guy friends commented that he enjoyed the film because he could relate to it so much. Maybe that is why I hated the movie so much. I did not find it cool that I could relate to these characters, but rather upsetting. In American Beauty, parents beat their children for being disrespectful and unthankful for the fruits of their labor. I have been exposed to abused children, both physically and emotionally, and did not wish to see this depicted on screen. The film struck a sensitive nerve inside of me and I felt miserable for hours after watching it. I can deal with watching Sylvester Stallone kill 30 men with one round of his uzi because this violence is not real, however, parents abusing their children is a very real problem. If the filmmakers were trying to help prevent this problem, they should have provided a manner of resolution and not just merely stated the obvious fact that abuse occurs frequently in Americas homes today. What good comes of stating the obvious?

Many people have told me that I missed the point of the film because it was not supposed to affect the viewer in a negative manner. It is a black comedy they would say. Black comedy? If the film is a black comedy then its the blackest of all black comedies I have ever seen. Its so uniquely disturbing it cannot fit easily into any genre. Even the funny parts are upsetting. Yes, Lester masturbating in the shower is amusing but take a step back and think about what that means. This middle aged man is pleasing himself like a sexually frustrated teenager straight out of American Pie because of his wives lack of sexual interest in him. While I find it disgusting to think about my parents having sex, I do understand that sex is a healthy part of any loving relationship. Its embarrassing and unsettling that this man has to commit this sexual act.

I am also upset over how some viewers thought the story was optimistic. It seems to me that the whole idea of American Beauty is to get under your skin and make you see what is wrong with middle class America today by describing the experiences of realistic characters. It succeeds at its aim, any middle-aged father could be Lester, any disillusioned teenager Jane. Yet, what does this assessment show, that most people are depressed and in the middle of internal crisis? I guess I am a rarity in this day and age then. I somehow have managed to mature without developing deeply psychological issues and a cynical outlook on life.

I am shocked by Americas reaction to this movie and find it deeply aggravating. I have also been told that I missed the point of the movie because it was obviously too grown up for me. To that I would respond, I dont need a two hour movie to tell me that life in American families today isn't swell, and then hear about how powerful that concept is by fellow viewers. Instead, I would rather have people take a second look at their reactions to this disturbing movie and take it for what it is: a well-done cautionary tale that seeks to expedite the disintegration of American values and continue the notion that dysfunctionality should just be accepted in modern times. What a beautiful concept.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR CONTINUED

SGA officials optimistic about shared governance

To the Editor:

In last week's Voice, Scott Montemerlo, the Senator from Wright, wrote that "now, more than ever, it has become obvious that the college has become apathetic to the ideal of shared governance." While we understand Scott's frustration over the problems SGA has encountered in recent months, we must disagree with his opinion that "this ideal no longer exists on this campus." Like Scott, we were particularly distressed when the administration and faculty waited until the Mariner's Square situation had reached a crisis point before consulting SGA. We were also disappointed with the way the women's crew team did not have a fair say in the hiring of their own coaches.

As unsatisfactory as these incidents are, we are still hopeful about the state of shared governance at Connecticut College. We should first dispel a few misconceptions of what shared governance means. It does not mean that students should know the excruciating minutiae of each and every College decision. Nor does it mean that, as the numerically superior group on campus, we merit a commensurate amount of authority over college policy. Save rare feats of clairvoyance, students are not adept at thinking about the long term interests of the college.

It's hard for students to say "this might sting now, but it will pay incredible dividends for future students and faculty." We are unwilling to mortgage our comfort now for greater returns in thirty years, even though, to adapt Keynes, in the long run we are not dead, we are alumni.

On a basic level, shared governance means we have a voice, not necessarily a vote (though we certainly do on voice, not necessarily a vote at Connecticut College, committees). Shared governance at Connecticut College, on a functional level, means that students will be consulted, whether through student representatives on com-

mittees or through the Student Assembly, on decisions germane to our college life. Our governance system allows students to serve on college committees with faculty, staff, and administration, where all have an equal vote.

Here students have their most powerful forum for making change and influencing College policy. When we, and others who serve on such committees, speak in these meetings, we take into account the needs of the student body. This is what members of the SGA Executive Board, members of the Assembly, and students-at-large who serve on college committees, have been elected to do.

In his letter, Scott bemoaned the perceived lack of student input regarding tuition increases and department reviews. With other students, we sit on both of the committees that deal with those issues: the Priorities, Planning, and Budget Committee (PPBC), which had a voice in the tuition increase and budget setting, and the Educational Planning Committee, which oversees any academic department review. Issues of campus wide importance normally go to committees composed of the three constituencies on campus; lending a student perspective and vote to each decision that is made.

Scott suggests that students are not consulted on a regular basis. Committee meetings for us have been as regular a part of the week as are our classes. Shared governance is not a "myth" at Connecticut College; when running smoothly, it is an effective way in which the voice of every sector of this campus can be heard. Certainly there are times, most noticeably in the Mariner's Square decision, when the process goes awry. But the salient lesson here is that we remain ever vigilant that students voices are heard.

Minor Myers '00
SGA President
Sarah Vermeylen '00
SGA Chair of Academic Affairs

Mergers Lead to Economic Mayhem

BRET COHEN

DOING LIFE



If you've been awake during the past couple of years, you've probably noticed something strange happening in the business world. And no, I am not referring to the large number of CEO's of major companies who look like they probably got beat up a lot in high school. I am of course alluding to the current trend of company mergers which is causing small businesses to rapidly disappear. This may seem like the natural development of the business world, but it is actually leading the public down a dangerous path that ends in economic mayhem.

Just this week Ben & Jerry's, that wonderfully quirky Vermont-based ice cream company was purchased by Unilever Corp. I think the negative vibes coming off this business move can be felt just by looking at the names of the two companies. I would much rather buy ice cream from a couple guys named Ben and Jerry than from Unilever Corp. What exactly is a Unilever?

Unilever Corporation is a multi-national conglomerate which owns a variety of ice cream companies such as Breyer's, Good Humor, and Klondike. While it seems natural for this giant ice cream company to add another flavor to its holdings, the move to buy Ben & Jerry's is truly scary because it turns a small, independent, and fun company into just another part of a national corporation who cares for nothing but profits.

Of course, Unilever did promise in their deal to purchase Ben & Jerry's to continue to promote Ben & Jerry's eco-conscious fun attitude. They promised not to change

the ice cream, to continue funding social and environmental programs, and to run Ben & Jerry's in much the same way as it has been for years. Sounds good, but already it seems that Unilever is taking measures to limit Ben & Jerry's extracurricular activities. The same day that Ben & Jerry's was purchased, an announcement was made that the ice cream company would no longer be funding the Newport Fold Festival, which they had been the primary sponsors of for the last 12 years. This does not bode well for Ben & Jerry's other special interest programs.

Unilever Corporation and other giant multi-national companies are concerned primarily with profits. Money. That is all that matters. Cutting costs and increasing profits is the way they work. While small independently-owned companies get involved in the local economy and have a real social conscience, the minute they are bought up by national corporations, all that becomes important is profit margins. Two days after Ben and Jerry's was purchased, their stock rose nearly twenty-five percent. I bet Unilever is happy.

If the current trend continues, small businesses will all but disappear. The individuality and quality associated with small businesses will be gone in favor of money, money, money. Cherry Garcia and Chunky Monkey could soon be things of the past. The cow-adorned, family-oriented ice cream factory in Vermont could soon be just a memory. It's a sad truth, but money is becoming the only interest of companies as small, independent businesses are slowly bought up by faceless, uncaring, multi-national corporations.

Unnecessary Hemp Ban Is An Environmental Burden

BRAD KREIT

LEFT OF MARX

Last August, the US Drug Enforcement Agency sprang into action, impounding twenty tons of marijuana that was being illicitly snuck across the United States-Canadian border near Ontario. Since then, the DEA has locked the narcotic up safely in Detroit, where it awaits as they attempt to prosecute the offending Canadians. The one unfortunate aspect of this important bust is that the "marijuana" the DEA seized was actually bird seed processed using hemp, a relative of the marijuana plant that contains a minute amount of THC, the psychoactive component of marijuana. As far as anyone can tell, no birds were planning to smoke this bird seed. For that matter, no people were planning on smoking this bird seed, as the amount of THC in hemp is far too limited for anybody to be able to use it for any physical reaction other than nausea or a headache. Not to be hindered by logic, this hasn't stopped the DEA from demanding that the Canadian manufacturers of the bird seed, where hemp is a legal and profitable crop, pay more than five hundred thousand dollars in fines for their previous product shipments. The DEA's only plea may be ignorance, as the Department of Agriculture's report on hemp has been stamped classified for no explicable reason. Prior to 1937 when marijuana was outlawed, hemp was a highly successful agricultural product in the United States which was even used in the making of the first United States flag. It has thousands of known uses, despite the fact that most industrial countries haven't been researching the possible uses of hemp for the past fifty or sixty years (only recently has hemp been legalized by Canada and European Union countries.) It can be grown under a huge variety of weather conditions, and doesn't require the pesticides that many other cash crops do. Sadly, in the United States' attempts to protect its citizens from marijuana, it has instead protected its citizens from the chance to use an environmentally friendly, economically successful crop.

Hemp has been kept illegal due to misconceptions - beliefs that hemp can be confused with marijuana, that the two products can be planted together, or that hemp

can be smoked for a high. None of these are true. Hemp is a thin-stemmed agricultural plant with a harvest life of ninety days; marijuana is a horticultural, branchy crop with a harvest life of one hundred and fifty days. Not only are the plants different enough that most lay-people can tell the difference between the two without any training, they cannot be planted together because hemp stunts the growth of marijuana buds, the smokable part of the plant, and makes marijuana plants in the same field impotent. In other words, hemp legalization does nothing to promote marijuana use. European Union countries such as Germany, the United Kingdom, and Austria have all tried legalizing hemp, leading to thousands of acres devoted to hemp production, without any significant increase in marijuana use.

Hemp legalization is an environmental issue, an economic free-market issue, but most certainly not a drug-user rights issue. In addition to the commonly known uses - paper products, clothes, and shoes - hemp has a variety of other uses including cosmetics, car-body parts, and even food. In fact the hemp seed is much like the soy bean, and can be used as a dairy substitute in cheese, margarine, and dressings. Hemp is even a nutritious plant, which has a variety of important fatty acids, along with easily absorbable proteins. In the United States, hemp imports comprise a small but growing economic market. The success of United States importers such as the California based Real Goods will only grow with the legalization of hemp, because of the decrease in overhead and wider product availability will reduce prices.

But regardless of the possible economic success that hemp could have, it isn't the job of the federal government to ban an eco-friendly, socially safe crop from mass-production. Rather than hindering environmental causes, the federal government should make an effort to promote environmentalism whenever possible. Federal hemp bans hurt the environment, hurt consumers, and hurt farmers who could profit by planting hemp fields. Unfortunately, it doesn't protect us from anything.

Avorn Responds to Letters Critical of Anti-Sidewalk Chalking Column

NATE AVORN

CLOSE COVER BEFORE STRIKING

I received some criticism over my column in issue 16 ("The Imprudence of the Sidewalk Manifesto"), and I'd like to address some of those issues. My column said that I thought that the Feminist Majority's Public Relations strategy was counterproductive, because it alienated people. As an example, I offered the chalking done outside of Cro on March 1st. Some people disagreed.

In their responding letter to the Editor, Ilana Hahnel, Rachel Berkson and the Feminist Majority Leadership Alliance of Connecticut College said that they were "unclear on what [my] problem was with the Feminist Majority's action. Was it the chalking, the quote, or the entire purpose of our organization?"

Allow me to quote from my original argument: "While I agree with most of the Feminist Majority's views on women's rights as far as I understand them, I take issue with their actions." Those words are copied exactly from my column.

Hahnel et al wrote that "the message that we understood from Avorn's article was that our existence as an organization is acceptable as long as we do not make our voices heard." If I was unclear in my column, I apologize. I didn't write that the existence of the Feminist Majority is unacceptable. I didn't write that it is unacceptable for them to make their voices heard. I didn't write that I disagree with the ideology of the Feminist Majority. I didn't even address it except to say that I agreed with it ("...I agree with most of the Feminist Majority's views on women's rights...").

What I did write was that I thought the chalking was ill advised, because it alienated its target audience. I surmise that the target audience of the chalking is people who are generally on board with the idea of feminism, but are not politically active. That's me. I support feminism. Feminism, as defined by a Feminist Majority flier I saw, is "the belief in social equality between the genders." I agree. I think social equality is a good thing. There's no reason for men and women to not have social equity. In my column, I simply responded to the chalking from the perspective of someone in the target audience who felt alienated. There was no reminder on the chalk-

ing that said when the Feminist Majority meets, which made briefing of the issue difficult for someone who was not already cognizant of the workings of Conn's Feminist Majority.

What is unfortunate is the tendency of people to think of ignorance and apathy as the same thing. Ignorance and apathy are not the same thing: Ignorance is not knowing, and apathy is not caring. Ignorance is an unfortunate situation that should be remedied through education. Apathy is a choice made by the well informed, who don't feel that there's a problem. No one should be ignorant, but we are all entitled to our apathy.

What is most interesting about this discussion is its tone. Although my column criticized only ideas and organizations, and did not stoop to dishonorable personal attacks, my column was fairly acidic. I wrote it that way with the expectation that it would attract attention to my column and its ideas. I got more attention then I had dared to hope for, in the form of people coming up to me to discuss my column, in the form of other letters to the Editor, and in the form of a message written on the wall outside my room next to a copy of the paper I had taped up. The message said, "imagine yourself as a hit and run victim."

By taking a fairly biting tone in my column, I gave an opportunity to those who would disagree with me. In responding to my column, they could also sink to nastiness, lower the level of the dialogue, and thus further distance themselves and their ideas from the community at large. Or, they could respond with logic, benevolence, and honor, and further the cause of feminism, which I support. I applaud the Feminist Majority for choosing the high road.

By responding in a mature fashion, their cause gained credence and the campus' esteem for their organization was raised. I only hope that the questionable tactic of attacking me personally, used by some of the less far-sighted respondents in last week's paper, does not damage the cause of real Feminists. The Feminist Majority meets Wednesdays at 10pm in the Knowlton living Room.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters to the Editor are due by 5:00 p.m. on the Wednesday preceding publication. The College Voice reserves the right to edit letters for clarity and length. No unsigned or anonymous letters will be published. However, names may be withheld upon the author's request. The College Voice will not publish letters deemed to be a personal attack on an individual. The College Voice cannot guarantee the publication of any submission. Letters should be double-spaced, no longer than 500 words, and must include a phone number for verification. If possible, please send your letter via floppy disk or email.

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Arts & Entertainment

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FRIDAY, APRIL 14, 2000

Secret Theatre Mounts Powerful Production of *Bash: Latterday Plays*

By MAUREEN MIESMER

staff writer

Tucked away in an unassuming niche next to the State Street Diner in downtown New London, the Secret Theatre lives up to its name on a variety of levels. The building passes for just another storefront, except for the slightly odd window display of partially assembled mannequins, dolls and a rotating disco ball that casts dancing white spots of light onto the sidewalk in front of the entrance. Inside, the candles, dim lamps and exotic artwork further add to the mystique of the theatre. The performance space consists of a raised platform and a semi-circle of folding chairs, leaving the audience to wonder at the ultimate secret—what kind of play lends itself to this theatre?

The answer, for this non-profit volunteer organization, is epitomized by the performance of three macabre one-act vignettes that make up *bash: latterday plays* under the direction of Donny Levit. Written by Neil Labute, all three plays revolve around Mormon characters and detestable acts of violence, which seem completely unrelated to the church, and yet the church is a common factor in all three pieces.

The first of these plays, entitled *medea redux* is the monologue of a young woman, played by Nina Wheeler-Chalin, seated alone at a small table with a pitcher of water, a tape recorder and an ashtray. The woman is apparently in an interrogation room, as she goes on in detail describing a love affair between herself and a teacher when she was thirteen years old. As the story progresses, the audience learns that

the girl eventually has a child, and fourteen years later, murders this child to extract revenge on the teacher that abandoned her.

Wheeler-Chalin delivers the monologue with a chilling absence of remorse, taking pride in the murderous revenge rather than feeling sor-

row for her dead child. The actress

also adequately reflects the immaturity and naivete of this young girl, recounting the affair with complete infatuation. This immaturity, however, seems to carry over into the adult psyche of this woman, as it is nearly impossible to realize she has aged at all since the affair.

The second vignette, equally morbid, features another monologue, entitled *iphigenia in orem*. A young businessman, played by Connecticut College student Lincoln Tracy '00, sits in what is implied to be a hotel room, addressing an unseen and unheard young woman that he has hand-

naive girlfriend. Overall, *bash* was an unsettling glimpse into the psyche of several disturbed individuals. Although the characters' violent acts didn't directly involve the Mormon church, the presence of this organization in each play fosters speculation into whether or not Labute meant to assign this violence to Mormon society. Regardless, the actors more than adequately illustrate each unbalanced character, and *bash* is an entertaining and provocative, if disquieting, look at the human capability for violence.

Diana Krall Jazzes Up The Garde With Impressive Performance

By DAWN HOPKINS

staff writer

Be sure that your beepers and cell phones are turned off. No, you are not on a plane; you are at the Garde Arts Center listening to the impressive Diana Krall in concert, sponsored by Olde Mistick Village and Bailey Agencies. Sunday, April 9,th offered two chances to see this talented pianist and vocalist perform some well-known jazz ballads with her own romantic interpretation.

Krall's passion for classic jazz is evident in the deep emotions she instills in all of her songs, making for an especially entertaining live performance. This amazing performer has had three different albums nominated for Grammys, with the latest, *I Look In Your Eyes*, winning for Jazz Vocal Performance. Her sense of humor was obvious when she nonchalantly mentioned that she was playing a song from one of her older albums and that "if you don't have the album, you can always get it tomorrow."

Accompanying Krall's masterful piano playing on stage were a bass player, a guitarist and a drummer. The great chemistry of the group was evi-



dent as they amusingly interacted with each other during the various songs. Nearly every song allowed for a partial solo by each member of the band and an opportunity to listen to Krall's rich, calm voice.

The concert offered a variety of

songs, from the up-beat to slightly melancholy. One of the happier songs was "All or Nothing at All," which began with a slow blues sound but sped up with a beat to which the audience snapped and the drummer danced. In "Hurry for the A Train into Harlem," there was a nice quick rhythm and a great drum solo to accompany Krall's smooth singing and piano playing.

During the finale, Krall demonstrated even more humor when she thanked the audience of the three o'clock performance "for coming out this afternoon, it's like morning for me ... just kidding." The final song about "Peeling me a grape" was evidently amusing for Krall too because she kept laughing and, in a side note, mentioned that if you ever want to scare someone on a first date then ask them to peel you a grape.

Thanks to Krall's stunning good looks and musical talents, the concert was aesthetically pleasing all around, not to mention entertaining. The chemistry between Krall and the band coupled with their senses of humor made the atmosphere even more enjoyable. The Garde provides wonderful opportunities like these throughout the year, and Conn students should take advantage of them.

Ravenshead Offers Audience One Man's Tempestuous Journey

By AMANDA OTIS

staff writer

The latest musical event at Palmer, the opera *Ravenshead*, was a rough journey for both Richard Ravenshead and the audience. A one-man opera inventively describing the aspirations and eventual descension of a man and his ship into instability, it does not fit into the traditional opera schema. Written from 1995-1998, this self-described "journey into the heart and mind of a flamboyant hero" is one that can't be enjoyed or interpreted easily.

The production is based on the true story of a man named Donald Crowhurst. Crowhurst, a British businessman, attempted in 1968 to race a boat around the world. He wanted free publicity for his latest navigational invention, and also desired to prove himself a versatile and capable man.

The trip seemed doomed before it even began as Richard haphazardly packed his ship and displayed doubts about the voyage to both himself and his wife. Problems continued to occur as the voyage got underway. Several parts of the ship malfunctioned or broke, and Richard's own navigational device also failed to work correctly.

Desperate for victory, Richard begins to lie about his position on radio communications to the mainland. With success the only option he will accept, he begins keeping two logbooks. One contains an accurate

account of his journey. The other is fabricated to present an intriguing and successful voyage to the public. When Richard's boat is found without its captain months later, both logbooks are still on board, each describing a very different set of 243 days at sea.

Songs and dialogue describing the journey were interspersed with the prerecorded dialogue of Richard's wife. She talked about what Richard was like as a man and gave her own view of their last few days together. Though this combination of song and live or prerecorded dialogue makes the opera unique, it doesn't make up for the harsh, almost grating quality of the combination of vocals and music. Often the vocal melody seemed entirely different from the one played by the musicians. This caused a tension that contributed to a sense that Richard was unstable and in trouble, but didn't do much for the ear.

The orchestra for the opera was onstage. Three members sat on each side of Richard's ship. Black partitions covered most of their instruments, but not their faces. The music was very modern, and at times, it seemed more a collection of noise without rhythm or melody. Crescendos that escalated with Richard's distress and his diminishing mental stability added to the drama, but seemed more like sound effects than a sound track.

The set itself was a motorized section of a boat, with a sail and pontoons on either side. It could also



raise itself into a stage for when Richard was initially presenting his idea to his investors. The sail swung back and forth across the main section of the boat. Richard used it as a swing, a dancing companion and an obstacle. With the ability to go inside the boat or up on top of the mast, he used all his limited space to great effect.

Ravenshead showed great ingenuity and stamina in both its acting and it's versatile set. The quality of music and vocal combination provided a more thorough understanding of the emotion behind the plot, but lacked in aesthetics. This leaves *Ravenshead* as a good intellectual opera, but not one that provides a particularly enjoyable night out.

Senior Minor/All-Student Art Show Highlights Conn Artists

By GRACE ALBINSON

staff writer

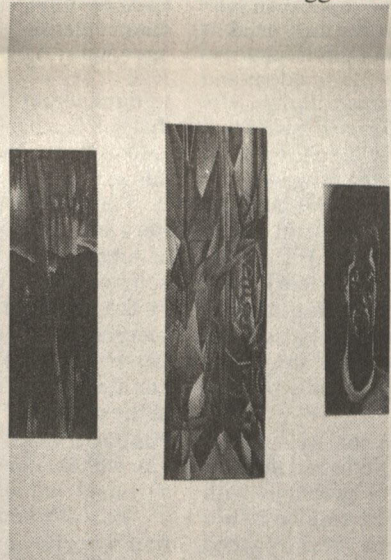
Recently, the Connecticut College campus was enlivened by the display of art works produced by Conn's own students. The works, which compose the "Senior Minor/All-Student Art Show", are currently on display in Cummings Art Center.

Occupying the main gallery, two smaller galleries and the above corridor of Cummings, the large show provides an opportunity for Conn art minors to unveil their talent and enlighten the College community. The majority of the show is comprised of pieces by senior art minors, but also includes pieces by sophomore and junior art minors.

Exhibiting painting, sculpture, photography, and mixed media, the show is a display of the students' exploration of various issues and medians. Not surprisingly, the show reveals a modern mentality and a strong emphasis on contemporary artistic creation; few still-lives or imitation Old Master pieces are seen.

The modern attitude, evident in many of the students' works, was

particularly vivid in junior John Piacquadio's work. One of Piacquadio's pieces, a painting entitled, "The Holy Family," displays a distinctly modern taste for the controversial in art. The title suggests a



PAINTING - ALEXIS STARR, PHOTO - TREVER BROWN

common religious image, while the work boldly replaces this image with a seemingly modern family.

Not only modern in concept, many of the students' pieces used contemporary technology to aid artistic creation. For example, the students of Art 310 Advanced Design Studies did a typographical investigation of text. Using a computer and the Virginia Woolf book, *The Waves*, the class manipulated the text to create different readings and vary its appearance.

Also stylistically contemporary, sophomore Seth Davis used characteristically modern material to create a work that explored gravitational forces through the median of sculpture. Student furniture designs are also exhibited in the show; several chairs constructed with cardboard decorate the main gallery.

The show demonstrates the talent and dedication of Conn's art minors. It is on display at Cummings Art Center through April 27.th

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My Dog Skip PG 95 min Fri 6:45; Sat-Sun 1:30, 6:45; Mon-Th 1:30, 6:45

The Cider House Rules PG 13 129 min Fri 8:40; Sat-Sun 3:45, 8:40; Mon-Th 8:40

American Beauty R 120 min Fri 7:00, 9:20; Sat-Sun 4:15, 7:00, 9:20; Mon-Thu 7:00, 9:20

Snow Day PG 85 min Sat-Sun 12:30, 2:20; Mon-Thu 1:15

Boys Don't Cry R 114 Fri 7:15, 9:30; Sat-Sun 2:30, 4:45, 7:15, 9:30; Mon-Thu 7:15, 9:30

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

ATLAS' I-Night Brings a World of Entertainment and Cuisine to Conn

By REBEKAH PAGE
a & e editor

Last Wednesday, April 12,th marked the second annual International Night presented by ATLAS, Conn's international student club. ATLAS President Angela Simos introduced the event to the sold out by explaining the club's goal: to make international students part of the campus community. Anyone in attendance would agree that I-Night exemplified the enrichment that ATLAS brings to Conn in achieving this goal.

I-Night committee chair Kalin Ivanov explains that "the ATLAS club includes both international and American students who were equally active in producing I-Night. All organizers and performers worked as a

team." This year, Bulgarian, Greek, Indian, Latin American, Moroccan, Russian and American cultures were represented in the performances.

The I-Night committee transformed the 1962 room into an international entertainment hall, with flags from dozens of countries draped across the walls and green and blue fabric covering the windows. White lights marked the boundaries of the walkway for the fashion show, and candles and floral centerpieces decorated each table, adding class to the festive atmosphere.

The enormous buffet table stretched across the back wall, and hungry students, faculty and guests waited patiently for their turn to heap cuisine from as many countries as possible onto their plates. The food truly seemed endless: mass quanti-

ties of sushi, sausage pastries, pasta, French vegetables, pita bread and falafel, lamb and beef dishes, Mexican rice and chicken, baklava and cake were piled as far as the eye could see. Area restaurants including Go Fish, Margarita's, Paul's Pasta, Les Papillons and Saeed's International Restaurant helped cater the delicious meal.

Once everyone had eaten enough for a week, they turned our attention to the stage. The introductory dance performance, a combination of four Indian folk dances choreographed by Lopa Desai and Mridula Swamy, was entitled Masala Mix. Clad in gorgeous traditional Indian dress, the dancers brought the entertaining pieces to life. One of the dances (I think it's called a dandia), involved the dancers tapping sticks with each other as they wove around the stage. All of the

dancers demonstrated great talent and skill in sharing this beautiful tradition with the audience.

The second performance was "Alabina," a Moroccan and Spanish dance performed by Sarah Gemba and Leila Lakhsassi. Although both women performed at the same time, each moved to the front of the stage several times to showcase a specific aspect of the dance. The dancers' movements were only synchronized for a short time during the piece, enhancing the individual expression in the beautiful two woman performance.

Pianist John Mulhern played an improvisational piece next that was actually incredible in the literal sense of the term—it was not to be believed. The ease with which Mulhern moved from melody to melody made it seem like his hands had a mind of their own.

I (and most people around me) sat in awe of this spectacular performance, hoping that it wouldn't end. And though I'm sure Mulhern could have continued for hours, the I-Night program had even more in store.

Hispanic studies students next treated the audience to an encore tango performance, originally part of the Poets on Location event in March. The dancers moved with intensity and grace, adding a stylistically superb element to the collection of performances. The tango was followed by St. Sophie's Hellenic Dancers, a group of 7 to 15-year-old performers from the Greek Orthodox Church in New London. The group performed three traditional Greek dances, while the audience clapped to the beat.

Conn's Russian Choir subsequently took the stage, filling the '62 room with their melodic voices as

they sang three traditional songs, two Russian and one Bulgarian. The choir provided a nice change of pace from the rest of the performances and gave the program another lovely musical component. The finale was the I-Night 2000 Fashion show, directed by Arik De, Annie Chu and Leila Lakhsassi. The show featured formal wear from around the world and was a huge success with the audience.

Once the beautifully timed and highly entertaining event came to a close, the audience reluctantly made its way back to everyday life. Says Ivanov, "by promoting an appreciation of other cultures, we hope tonight we've made a modest contribution to the cause of peace." I am certain that ATLAS will continue to make profound contributions to our campus in years to come.

Rules of Engagement: Surprisingly Unique Courtroom Drama

By JESSE ERDHEIM
staff writer

★★★★☆
Rules of Engagement
Starring: Tommy Lee Jones, Samuel L. Jackson, Ben Kingsley
Directed by: William Friedkin
An attorney defends an officer for ordering his troops to fire on civilians



Traditionally, military courtroom dramas have attempted to evoke sympathy for their submissive defendants, think *A Few Good Men*, and portrayed commanding military officers as brutal protectors who take any measure necessary to defend their country. And, yes, this stereotypical view of the military is depicted in *Rules of Engagement*, but the film's intriguing premise prevents a hackneyed result.

The plot centers on the relationship between two marine colonels, Hays Hodges (Tommy Lee Jones) and Terry Childers (Samuel L. Jackson), throughout their time in the service. The officers fought in Vietnam together where Childers saved Hodge's life by killing an unarmed P.O.W. As time passes, Hodges quits active duty, becomes a lawyer and a lonely drunk while Childers, a heavily decorated textbook marine, leads his troops into Yemen to quell a demonstration outside of the U.S. embassy. After saving the U.S. ambassador and his family, Childers orders the massacre of the supposedly unarmed Yemen protesters, killing 83 of them. To avoid an international crisis, the U.S. court martial Childers for his actions and the accused asks his old war friend, Hodges, to defend him.

Rules of Engagement provides heavy insight into the ethical conduct of war. Can decorated marines disregard the rules of battle if they deem it necessary to save lives? As soldiers of war, it seems justified that Americans give marines, just as we give the police, certain leniency to bend the rules in order to protect fellow offi-

cers and uphold the universal laws of civilization.

At certain points, Stephen Gaghan's script weighs down the film with its failure to wrap up subplots. For example, while on the witness stand, the U.S. ambassador (Ben Kingsley) commits perjury and later his wife (Anne Archer) tells Hodges that her husband did in fact lie in open court. This scene seems to set up an inevitable powerful courtroom confrontation, but the movie never provides one. Despite the plot's inconsistencies, the story, under the master direction of William Friedkin and guided by the acting talents of Jones and Jackson, never loses steam. The audience cannot help but care about the main characters' lives and the outcome of the trial.

In recent years, director William Friedkin has lent his visual talents to trashy films, such as the disastrous David Caruso vehicle, *Jade*, yet his camera work in *Rules* is reassuring. It seems that the director of *The French Connection* and *The Exorcist* can still successfully tackle controversial material after his long hiatus. Friedkin's camera swoons over Jackson's face during the Vietnam sequence and distorts his alleged innocence. Did Childers act as a first class marine or out of rage in Yemen? With much skill the filmmaker turns this question into the driving force behind this powerful and entertaining movie.

Big Pun's Yeeeah Baby- Nooo Thank You!

By JESSE ERDHEIM
staff writer

The rapper Big Pun died recently, on February 7. May he rest in peace. May his last album, *Yeeeah Baby*, rest in peace alongside him. In 1996 Big Pun emerged onto the rap scene with the album, *Capital Punishment*, which featured the catchy hit "Still Not a Player." But the success surrounding this song threatened to place Big Pun into the one-hit wonder category. Obviously, the popularity of *Capital Punishment* provided enough leverage for Big Pun to produce another disc. Sadly though, *Yeeeah Baby* will not immortalize Pun for his catchy beats, but rather for his futile attempts to produce another quality rap song.

It seems that when an artist reflects on a completed project, he would like to feel proud about the quality of the work produced. Yet, I can't figure out why Big Pun would have put out such an atrocious cd after showcasing his rapping talents on *Capital Punishment*. Apparently, the fourth track on *Yeeeah Baby*, "It's So Hard," has been released and a music video has been made for it that can be seen on MTV or BET. Now, I'm not sure what these two television stations are thinking by playing this song, but I'm pretty sure it won't ever earn a spot in heavy rotation. During the chorus, Pun raps, "I just want to crush my wife/take my life/ cause it's so hard." Needless to say, this song is not going to help Big Pun's album become a strong follow-up to his debut.



Other songs, such as "My Dick" are juvenile but amusing, even though their beats are far from thrilling. "My Dick" discusses the artist's respect for his penis in catchy phrases, such as "get off my dick, my dick, my dick, my dick" and provides some cheap laughs. Also, the skit "Air Pun," which divides the album in half, provoked some chuckles due to its grotesque content; maybe it's just me, but the idea of Big Pun's gigantic body farting in an airplane and disturbing passengers is extraordinarily hilarious. However, if I wanted to laugh, I would have listened to a Chris Rock album instead.

Fans of rap music will find little to enjoy on Big Pun's second album. Even for an ordinary studio album, it's unimpressive and fails to demonstrate the rapper's talents. His untimely death is unfortunate for numerous reasons, but probably most of all just because he will always be remembered as the guy who's not a player but likes to crush a lot.

MOVIE TIMES

Hoyts Waterford 9
28 Days (PG13) FRI-THUR 12:00 2:25 5:05 7:25 10:00
Keeping the Faith (PG13) FRI-THUR 12:50 3:35 6:45 9:40
Rules of Engagement (R) FRI-THUR 12:40 3:40 7:00 9:50
Return to Me (PG) FRI-THUR 1:00 4:00 6:40 9:35
Ready to Rumble (PG13) FRI-THUR 12:10 2:40 5:00 7:30 9:55
Black and White (R) FRI-THUR 2:20 9:25
The Road to El Dorado (PG) FRI-THUR 12:20 2:30 4:30 6:50 9:00
The Skulls (PG 13) FRI-THUR 1:15 4:15 7:15 9:45
Erin Brockovich (R) FRI-THUR 12:30 3:30 6:30 9:30
Final Destination (R) FRI, SUN-THUR 12:15 7:20 SAT 7:20
Sneak Preview: Frequency (PG13) SAT 7:20

Hoyts Mystic Cinemas 3
American Psycho (R) FRI 3:45 7:00 9:25 SAT-THUR 12:00 3:45 7:00 9:25
Rules of Engagement (R) FRI 3:30 6:30 9:20 SAT-THUR 12:30 3:30 6:30 9:20
High Fidelity (R) FRI 3:15 6:45 9:30 SAT-THUR 12:15 3:15 6:45 9:30

Hoyts Groton 6
Keeping the Faith (PG13) FRI 3:50 6:40 9:20 SAT-THUR 1:00 3:50 6:40 9:20
Where the Money Is (PG13) FRI 4:40 6:50 9:00 SAT-THUR 12:10 2:25 4:30 6:50 9:00
The Road to El Dorado (PG) FRI 4:30 6:45 8:50 SAT-THUR 12:20 2:25 4:30 6:45 8:50
Rules of Engagement (R) FRI 4:00 7:00 9:45 SAT-THUR 12:50 4:00 7:00 9:45
Black and White (R) FRI-THUR 5:00 9:40
The Skulls (PG13) FRI 4:20 7:20 9:50 SAT-THUR 12:30 4:20 7:20 9:50
Final Destination (R) FRI 7:30 SAT-THUR 12:40 2:50 7:30

Oasis A Cut Above With Standing on the Shoulder of Giants

By JESSE ERDHEIM
staff writer



Oasis is one of the most talented rock and roll bands around today. Despite their blatantly pompous attitudes and arrogant claims that they should be considered the second coming of the Beatles, Oasis boasts one of the most gifted singer/songwriter pairs in popular music: Noel and Liam Gallagher. The brothers Gallagher have produced numerous well-crafted albums in the 1990s, most notably their 1995 effort, *What's the Story Morning Glory*, whose hits, "Wonderwall," "Champagne Supernova" and "Don't Look Back in Anger" propelled them into the rock spotlight.

On their new album, *Standing on the Shoulder of Giants*, Liam Gallagher's voice is as strong and commanding as ever, demonstrating why he is one of today's leading British vocalists. In addition, Noel's accomplished piano and guitar-playing accompany his brother's unique vocal skills perfectly. Over time I have developed a respect for Gallagher's traditional yet controlled and distinctive style. On Oasis' new album, Noel provides background music ranging from screechy guitar solos to lively acoustic playing.

Also, Noel displays his ability to write quirky and insightful lyrics throughout the entire album. On the cd's first single, "Go Let it Out," Liam sings: "Is it any wonder why

princes and kings/ are clowns that caper in their sawdust rings." Noel discusses the failure of people to back up what they say on "Put Yer Money Where Your Mouth Is." Liam sings, "Ready or not, come what may/ the bets are going down for judgement day." The songs on the new album touch on a variety of subjects and all illustrate Oasis' never-ending commitment to influencing the modern rock and roll scene.

Fans of Oasis and British rock in general will find much to appreciate on *Standing on the Shoulder of Giants*. As usual, the singing/songwriting pair of the brothers Gallagher produces entertaining songs that seem like a rarity in this day and age of rap influenced heavy metal. One of the best traditional rock and roll groups in modern music, the members of Oasis prove that they are musical giants themselves.

Arts & Entertainment

Calendar of Events
April 14th - April 21st

APRIL 14th -16th
19th Annual Connecticut Storytelling Festival. Batt Burns from Ireland as well as many Connecticut storytellers will join at Conn for workshops, dancing, puppetry, and a festival dinner. 439-2764.

APRIL 14th
Connecticut College Chamber Choir. "The Three B's" 7:30p.m. Harkness Chapel.

Bash: Latterday Plays with Conn Students Luke Rosen, Kimberleigh Weiss, and Lincoln Tracy. Special midnight performance. Secret Theatre.

APRIL 15th
Fly's Ghost opening for the Slip at El'N'Gee 9:00pm

Bash: Latterday Plays. 8:00p.m. Secret Theatre.

A Cappella Concert—Acappellooza. Featuring the Williams Street Mix and Guests. 8:00p.m. Harkness Chapel.

Lydian String Quarter. Composer, Lee Hyla. 8:00p.m. Palmer Auditorium.

Artful Lives Film Series. *The Shakers: Hands to Work, Hearts to God.* 1:00p.m. Lyman Allyn.

Shock Value—an evening with John Waters. Discussion will include commentary on trashy entertainment and the absurdity of society's morals. 7:00p.m. Garde Arts Center. 444-7373.

APRIL 16th
Connecticut College Chamber Players. 3:00p.m. Hendel Library. Lyman Allyn Museum.

Senior Instrumental Recital. Anna DiLello, violin. 8:00p.m. Harkness Chapel.

APRIL 17th
Desperation and Triumph of Hope. Millennial Movements in Latin America Faculty book talk with Frank Graziano, professor of Hispanic Studies. 4:00. Blaustein.

APRIL 18th
CC Downtown Gourmet Series. Les Papillons Restaurant. 6:00p.m. CC Downtown, 305 State Street. 443-5412.

New York City Comic Eliot Chang Performing with the Connecticut College Comedy Group. 8:00p.m. Blaustein. 439-2628

Gallery Focus with guest artist Tom Zetterstrom. Tour of his photography exhibit, *Portraits of Trees.* 7:00p.m. Lyman Allyn.

APRIL 19th
Alfred Hitchcock Movie Showing—*Rear Window* starring James Stewart and Grace Kelley. 6:30p.m. New London Library.

Applied Music Program Recital. Instrumental and vocal repertoire. 7:30p.m. Evans Hall.

If you know of any upcoming events that you would like the college community to be aware of, please email Rebekah Page at rwpag@conncoll.edu. Only events occurring in the week following the issue date of the current paper will be included.

Student Employee of the Year

Each year, Financial Aid Services asks student employers to nominate students who exceed expectations and excel at their positions. This year, we received a number of outstanding nominations. On April 6th, we presented the award to our Third Annual Student Employee of the Year—Danielle Ulwick. Danielle is employed at the US Coast Guard Library.

Her supervisor, Mrs. Nijole Crane, wrote many wonderful things

in support of Danielle's nomination including, her creation of a Spanish Library Vocabulary list and publication of a research study Danielle conducted "Women's Self Perception: A Comparison of Students from Connecticut College and the US Coast Guard Academy."

The Student Employee of the Year Award is one way that we can recognize all of the hard work and energy that students put in as employees of Connecticut College. All of

the student employees deserve thanks and recognition for the work that they do. Our nominations and award are just one way for this to happen on campus.

The other finalists were: Richard Ricard, Daniel Leptuck, Alyssa Yeager, Rebecca Bright, Brianna Callaway, Brenda Johnstone and Erin Munro.

These students will be receiving certificates to recognize their accomplishments.

Scholarships for Camels in '00

continued from page 1

lives and American society in greater perspective and develop a more informed sense of international concern.

Each year, out of 184 finalists, 60 Watson scholars are chosen and five are placed on a waiting list. Four Connecticut College seniors were finalists for the Watson scholarship this year.

Senior art and philosophy major, Maya Pindyck, proposed to travel to Morocco, Turkey and South Africa to study the female condition in each of these societies through the use of art-ist books.

Bess Bayne, a senior Zoology major, was chosen as an alternate fellow and has been placed on the waiting list. Bess wants to become an obstetrician and she adores children. Her proposed project, therefore, is to go to Mauritius and Sweden to study, "Maternity: A Comparative Study of Culture, Policy, and Practice." She hopes to spend a half a year in both of these countries, and study their health care systems specifically their maternity policies.

Senior Asian studies and psychology major, Kyoko Ikeda, is a recipient of the Watson fellowship this year. Her project is entitled "A Pilgrimage to Korea—Searching for my Rela-

tionship with History." She will study the legacy of Japanese colonialism in Korea by interviewing people who experienced the colonial era as well as college students. Kyoko is very grateful to the Connecticut faculty especially Professor Dudden of the history department, Professor Singer, Dean James and Dean Williams.

The Harry S. Truman Scholarship awards \$30,000 in scholarships to college students who plan to pursue careers in government or elsewhere in public service and wish to attend graduate school. The chosen Truman scholars are giving the opportunity to intern in Washington and to participate in leadership development programs. Scholars are chosen based on merit and must be in their junior year of college. These students must also have extensive records of community service, must be committed to careers in government or elsewhere in the public sector, and must have exceptional leadership potential.

Cynthia Erickson, a government major, applied for the Truman scholarship this past February. After a rigorous day of interviews by people such as the superintendent of West Point and the chairman of the Rockefeller foundation, she was chosen as one of the 191 finalists.

A few weeks later, President Gaudiani called Cindy, who is spending this semester in Washington, and

congratulated her on being a Truman scholar along with only 29 other students. Cindy is the first Truman scholar in Conn history. Her background, which includes serving as an intern at the New London Superior Court and for Connecticut Congressman John Larson, shaped her into a perfect Truman scholar. Cindy would like to thank Dean James for all of his help.

The Luce Scholars program is a very unique one. This program is funded by Henry Luce and was established in 1974. Henry Luce does not have a very high opinion of academia. He therefore wanted the Luce program to be experiential rather than academic. It is designed for students who have had no prior exposure to Asia including studying an Asian language and taking Asian studies classes. It sends 18 students from three regions of the U.S. to Asia for a year-long internship and submersion into Asian culture. The foundation hopes that these students will then be able to make their own impression of Asia.

Fifteen students are selected from each of the three regions and then a final six receive the scholarship. Bess Bayne, a Conn senior and Zoology major was one of the finalists from New England.

Eclipse Weekend in 25th Year at CC

continued from page 1

truly eclectic, included a spirited Indian Group Dance, a Vietnamese Candle Dance, a West African Dance and a rousing step show by a group from the Coast Guard Academy.

Leslie Williams '88, current director of Unity House, says the goal of Eclipse Weekend today is, "to create an opportunity for the celebration of multi-culturalism and diversity... the diverse cultural experiences can be shared with the community." This goal was certainly achieved by the fashion show. Eclipse Weekend is meant to be an event for the whole campus to enjoy, but Dean of Student Life Catherine Woodbrooks noted that in recent years this has not been the case.

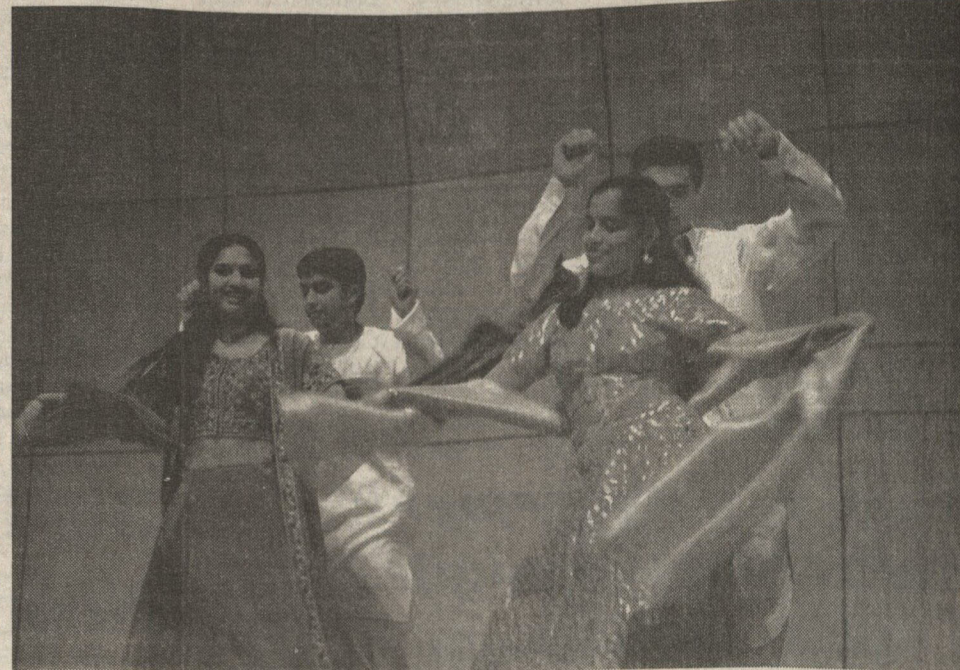
Dean Woodbrooks frequents the events of Eclipse Weekend and went to the luncheon on April 7th. "There were four people at the luncheon that were white and there were forty people there." Woodbrooks is in her ninth year at Student Life and has attended many events sponsored by Unity House. "It's very disheartening to look around the room at some of these events and see the same faces."

She speaks positively about the events that take place at Unity House. "They have the best speakers; they throw the best parties.... I feel bad, I feel like white students are missing out."

Dean Woodbrooks points out the difference in the way students respond to events sponsored by Unity as opposed to those sponsored by the Student Activities Council. "No one's going to say that's a SAC thing; that's a white thing." One of the major events sponsored by Unity House is Eclipse Weekend, and while the performing arts and fashion show was packed many of those in the audience were not a part of the Connecticut College community, the events of Eclipse Weekend remain unknown to a significant portion of this campus.

One of the major components of Eclipse Weekend has become inviting prospective students from traditionally under-represented racial groups on campus and hosting them for the weekend. This year twenty-five prospectives attended.

Williams notes that this tradition, a part of the weekend since 1980,



Dancers get crazy at Eclipse Weekend. (Hillenbrand)

gives the students a chance, "to see things that may represent them." Dean Woodbrooks also sees the opportunity Eclipse Weekend brings for recruiting students who have recently been accepted, "The purpose is to recruit the best and the brightest students of color.... I want them to get an accurate picture." She says, "It's not a big PR campaign but a chance for them to make an accurate, informed decision."

Prospective students certainly saw great enthusiasm on the part of those involved with Eclipse Weekend, and must have noticed all the effort put into organizing it. On the pamphlet for the Eclipse Performing Arts & Fashion Show Leslie Will-

iams writes of the weekend, "Over the past 25 years it has evolved into a multi-cultural celebration and is regarded as one of the most diverse events in Southeastern Connecticut."

Our college hosting this event for the past twenty-five years speaks well of the school to prospective students. Currently a main focus at CC is supposed to be embracing multiculturalism and recognizing diversity as an essential component of the community. Dean Woodbrooks says, "There's a real call for white students and faculty to attend these events... it's time for the college to show its commitment to diversity."

Bracelets at Florialia '00

continued from page 1

more concerned with the fact that the administration had asked for the students to examine the issue and then did not accept their recommendation. Scott Montemerlo '01, house senator from Wright, focused on this issue. "Asking us to recommend a policy and then going against our recommendation brings into question the reason for ever forming a Florialia committee and questions the College's commitment to shared government," said Montemerlo.

Scott McEver disagrees. The director of student activities believes that this is an example of shared governance functioning properly. "We need to be aware that shared governance doesn't preclude the administration from having to make difficult decisions that students may not be in favor of," said McEver. "We've tried to allow students to address these concerns for several years and students have not been very successful. We feel it is time we step in and make it happen."

McEver noted that Florialia has not always been the wild time that it has been in recent memory. The event began over two decades ago as a class project by two students to celebrate the creative spirit and the arts with a spring community music festival. McEver recently received a phone call from an alum who wanted to come to the event with her husband and a few friends to celebrate the birthday of their one-year old daughter. "I had to explain to her that the event was probably not how she remembered it," said McEver.

"Many alumni from five to ten years ago remember Florialia as great fun and music and students from two to three years ago don't remember it at all—that is the problem."

If the related ills of Florialia do not improve this year, the event may be in jeopardy. "We as an administration are coming half way when we are allowing the event to take place," said Goodwin, "and we need students to meet us half way."

What the administration is looking for is reducing binge drinking, vandalism and drug use. "When the students say that that is impossible what choice does that leave us?" asked Goodwin.

For their part, the committee members deny that they are not interested in achieving these goals and do not believe that they have said that it is impossible.

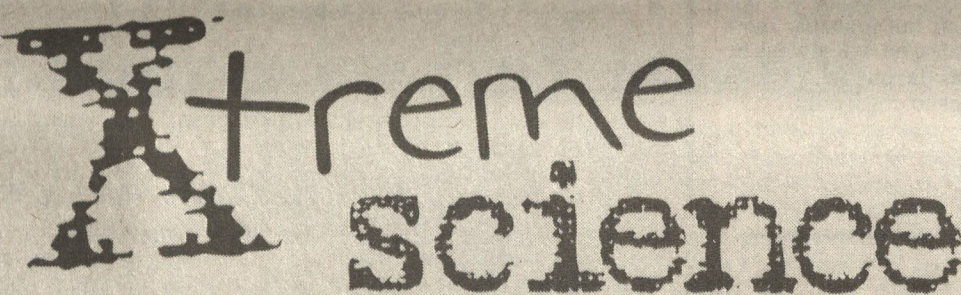
"I think there is going to be a more tame Florialia, not because of anything the administration will do," said Frankel, "but because we have a smarter student body. We don't have anymore Ben Bings. The bracelets aren't going to do anything but chafe."

Frankel may be right. With an approximate doubling of the campus's population for the weekend and an outdoor music festival where drinking is still allowed, Campus Safety has an awful lot of responsibility. That may preclude Campus

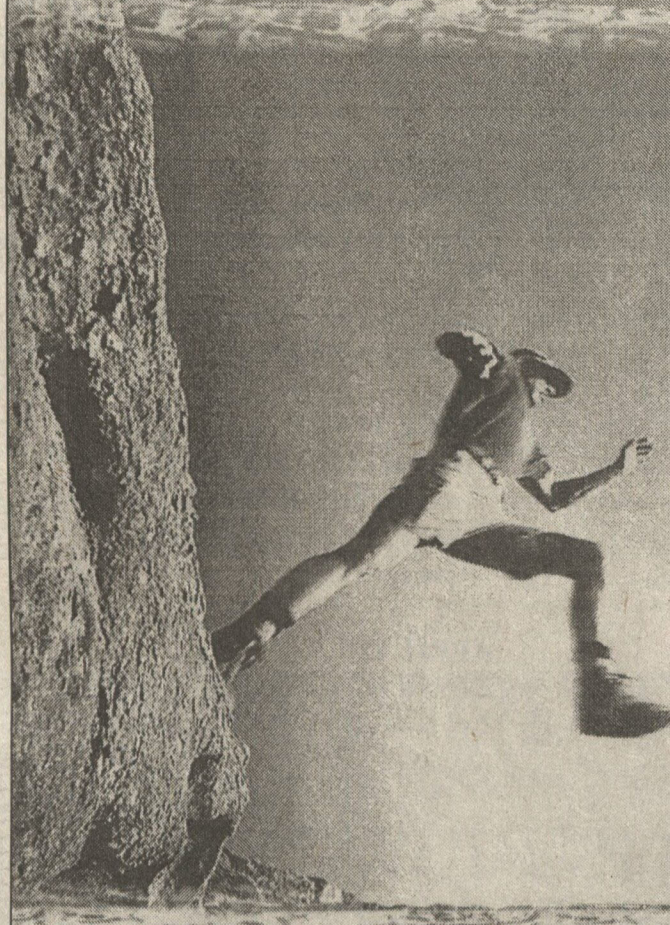
Safety officers from targeting underage drinking while dealing with the expected behavioral and health incidents.

Jim Miner, Director of Campus Safety, said that the main concern of Campus Safety will be the safety and well being of all persons in attendance. "We will continue to support and enforce the College's alcohol policy but our objective main concern will be the safety of the students and guests."

Though he objects to the new bracelet policy, for his part, Scott Montemerlo plans to enjoy himself at Florialia: "As long as the shark is back, I'll be happy."



Xtreme science

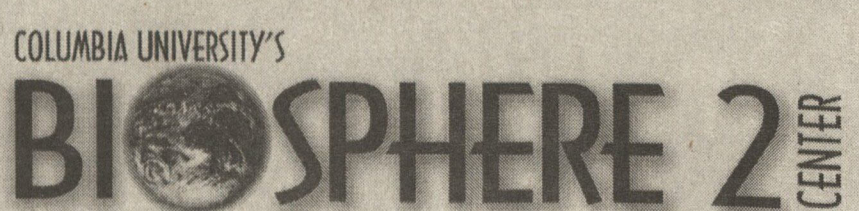


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sonoran desert

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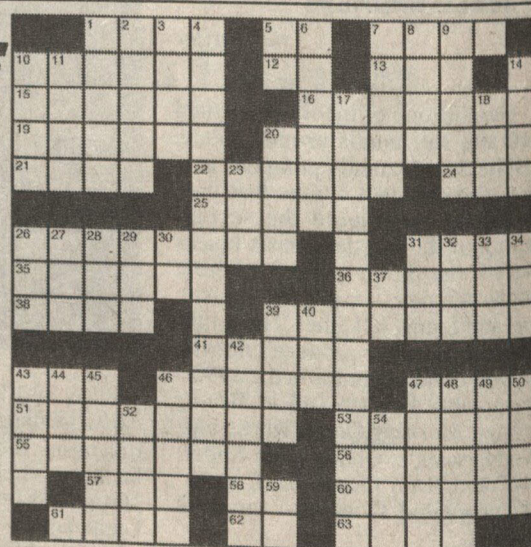
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ACROSS

1. To have and to ____
5. State next to IL
7. Satisfy
10. An intense fear
12. In the direction of
13. What did you say?
15. A quantity to which another quantity is added
16. Ornamental blooming plants
19. Participated in a game
20. Caused blackouts in WWII
21. Without
22. Alar
24. Fish eggs
25. Moons (fr.)
26. Excess
31. Fencing foil
35. ____ to the core
36. Shades of yellows
38. October birthstone
39. Forms of math
41. Where to meet the Robert E. Lee
43. Mimic
46. Strip down the highway
47. Questions
51. Under twenty
53. A seal on a document
55. State of being a monster
56. Exempt
57. Contraction
58. Only one
60. Before the present
61. A state of alarm
62. ____ what!
63. Talk back

DOWN

1. Indian house
2. Carries out an order
3. Drop me a ____
4. Movie with Astaire and Caron
5. Adeline's family cousin
6. Not favoring one term or another
7. Gather in sewing
8. A soft breeze
9. A possessive pronoun
10. Soft foods
11. Hawaiian dance
14. Being
17. Places to get the good word
18. "Much ____ About Nothing"
20. Friend of Starnes King
23. Possessive pronoun
26. For
27. Cut off
28. Abbrev. at airport
29. Abbrev. entire
30. That man against
31. A kind of tide
32. Each
33. A laundry detergent
34. Phonetic letter of alphabet
39. Enthusiastic
40. Meadow
42. Diseases of water retention
43. Boy cat
44. Place to hang a coat
45. Weird
46. Golds
47. Peaks
48. Avoids
49. Boardwalk game
50. Olio
52. Russian River
54. The God of Egypt said, "I ____"
59. Negative



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City Council Rejects Tax Credit Plan Niering Environmental Hero for 2000

continued from page 1

to conclude that regardless of the use of the property, the costs exceed what you can privately finance." Thus, explained Matos, "you need some form of public subsidy to close that gap."

The low income tax credit, a program introduced in 1986 by Congress in the wake of massive cutbacks in federal housing programs, could do just that. Local residents, business owners and the majority of city council, however, shy away from introducing more low income housing to a city where 20 percent of the existing housing stock is either Section Eight or public housing.

Damon Hemmerdinger, director of real estate development at the NLDC, argues that a distinction must be made between the housing that the tax credits would provide at Bacon and Crocker and typical low income housing. He calls the label of "low income" for this program a misnomer. "If you compare the \$16,000 income cap for a family of four in the New London Housing Authority at

Thames View versus the \$28,000 for the low income tax credit," says Hemmerdinger, "you can see that the Bacon and Crocker buildings would not really be 'low income.'" The \$28,000 income cap that the tax credit program requires would put residents squarely within the average income of New London. "Also," continues Hemmerdinger, "for Section Eight, the government pays a portion of the rent. That is not the case with the tax credit. The credit goes towards construction."

When the construction is completed, according to Matos, "Unless you put a sign out front that says 'Low Income Housing,' no one would ever know."

Reid Burdick, a twice-elected councilman, voted in favor of the tax credit proposal because he saw it as the only way to finance the project without shifting the burden to the local tax payers. He believes that the popular sentiment against the proposal was engineered by local landlords who want to prevent competition in the downtown housing mar-

ket. "These are not going to be more low income housing," said Burdick. "Look at the sign out in front of the Bryer Cliff apartments on Coleman Street. Two and three bedrooms start at \$235 a month. That is low income. These apartments would start at \$600 a month. That is not low income."

Burdick points out that renters of the Bacon and Crocker apartments would be required to be employed, have a work record and a credit check, none of which are required in low income housing.

The state will deliver its decision in May. If the application is approved, the NLDC Board of Directors will vote on whether to go ahead with financing through the tax credit at their June meeting. According to Hemmerdinger, the NLDC technically has the power to use the tax credits despite the city council vote. However, as the NLDC is the city's formally designated implementation agency, the political reality of the situation may not permit the NLDC to go against the council.

Late William Niering, a professor of botany at Connecticut College from 1952 up until his death in August of 1999, was just named an Environmental Hero for 2000, by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

Since 1996, NOAA has recognized individuals and organizations for their excellence in matters of the environment.

He was nominated by Peg Van Patten, a return to college graduate (RTC) of CC. She is presently the Communications Director for Connecticut Sea Grant, which is based at UConn. This institution funded many of William Niering's research projects.

When asked why she nominated Niering, she stated, "In my mind, Bill Niering is a legend in environmental matters. He inspired people to take

an ecologically friendly lifestyle. If ever there was an environmental hero, it was Bill. I recall from my days as a student at Connecticut College how his lectures and field trips turned everyone on to botany and the environment."

His widow will be receiving a letter from Vice President Al Gore to congratulate late Professor Niering on his award.



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SGA Hopefuls Speak Their Minds on the Eve of Elections

By ANIL G.C.

associate news editor

Connecticut College will soon be joining the wave of elections that has recently swept Russia, Greece, Georgia, Bosnia and Peru. On the 20th and 21st of April, the Connecticut College students will cast their ballots to choose the SGA Executive Board members and Young Alumni Trustees for the academic year 2000-2001. The Class Executive Board elections will follow the YAT/SGA Executive Board elections on the 4th and 5th of May.

Presently, 14 candidates have registered for next week's YAT/SGA Executive Board elections. The self-nomination period for this round of elections ends on the 16th of April.

With the following three questions, *College Voice* approached the registered candidates and sought to explore the candidates' fundamental platforms:

College Voice: What are your key issues in the upcoming election?

Scott Alan Montemerlo' 01 (Presidential candidate, SGA executive board):

The most important issue of my campaign is to return shared governance. As I stated in my "letter to the editor" last week, it is my opinion that shared governance does not exist on this campus. If elected, I guarantee that the student voice will be heard once again. Other issues that I hope to address next year would include re-evaluating the role of the student senator, examining the fundamental rights of students on this campus, examining the alcohol policy in order to get a set written policy to the students, increasing the flow of information from the administration and SGA to the students, and working on making the student judicial process and honor code more understandable and functional.

Jeffrey John Cook' 01 (Presidential Candidate, SGA executive board):

The foremost issue that I plan to address is the topic of shared governance. Recently, my opponent Scott Montemerlo submitted a "letter to the editor" attacking the administration and the system of governance at CONN. He contends that shared governance is a farce or even a myth. While I agree that communication between the administration and the student body must improve, I do not agree that "shared governance" is a myth. If elected, I would like to dispel any such notion and would attempt to strengthen and reaffirm the role of the students and SGA in the proceedings of this college.

Although the recent proposed cuts to the Health Services may be finalized this semester, I believe that this department offers an essential service to the college community and must continue to operate twenty four hours a day. The health service is absolutely necessary round the clock, and by no means should administration reduce the hours. Certainly, other modification or alternative plans can be initiated as long as the health of the students is the foremost issue and not the cost or some minor inefficiency of the system.

Kedar Koirala' 01 (Candidate, Vice President, SGA executive board):

The vice president of SGA is responsible for the finance committee, which basically allocates the SGA's annual funds to various clubs and organizations on campus for their activities throughout the year. The finance committee discusses the funding proposals provided by the clubs. Besides that, the VP also sits on the SGA executive board and attends all the SGA meetings.

As the VP and hence the head of the finance committee, I am going to make sure that the money is used efficiently. I am going to encourage every club on campus to approach the finance committee and I would ensure that they would be provided with appropriate funding as long as the activities are organized within the guidelines of the SGA and that they serve the interests of the wider student body.

When I served on the finance committee during my sophomore year, a lot of the clubs depended just on the funding from the finance committee. This is not sufficient as the SGA funds are very limited, and so clubs should also explore other sources for financing their activities. Since the aggregate fund available to the finance committee is limited, the committee would go bankrupt in the first 10 weeks of the year if it starts handing out every single dollar that the clubs request for. As much as I would encourage clubs to approach the finance committee, I would also encourage them to look into other sources of financing their activities, such as various profit and non-profit organizations around the area and in the country, open up vendors during various activities on campus, approach *alums* of the college and many more... my committee would also help to provide advice on how to find and get to these external sources.

Brendan Paddy Meehan' 02 (Candidate, Vice President, SGA Executive Board):

I have three important issues that I am addressing in my campaign: Reform of shared governance, keeping the Student body informed, and moving critical issues forward.

With the announcement of proposed cutbacks in health services, troubles with Mariner's Square, and the recent tuition hike, I believe it is important that the voice of students be given greater respect. If elected, I will work to make SGA united and forthright when issues that directly affect the student body come to the table. With this reform of shared governance, I believe only positive results and greater understanding throughout the campus will result.

Keeping the Student body informed goes hand in hand with the reform of shared governance. If elected, I will make sure that students are kept abreast of issues that are proposed before SGA. Knowledge is power. An informed student body can develop a better understanding of campus wide issues, and this will facilitate less rumors and more viable solutions for active discussion.

Finally, critical issues facing students must be moved forward. If elected, I will actively push issues through SGA with emphasis on those which could affect the student body. Since SGA represents student opinion, it is important that strong, lucid legislation that is easily understood leaves the assembly. Critical issues should not stall out at the student level: they affect us now, not later.

Matthew Ross Samet' 01 (Candidate, Public Relations Director, SGA Executive Board):

Member of PR Committee and Student Bill of Rights Committee, Former assistant PR director, Former Senator, Former Freshman J-Board Representative

My fundamental issues in this race have very much to do with making this school the best environment possible. While PR Director may not be in a position to make some of the big decisions that other positions would entail, this would give me a chance to get students involved in this school the way they should be...I'm not going to pull any punches...the involvement this school shows sometimes does not please me. For what I consider a fairly liberal arts school, we really are an apathetic bunch. I just want students to be excited about issues.

Charles Nathan Olsher' 01 (Candidate, Chair of Academic Affairs, SGA Executive Board):

Member of "Students for a Free Tibet", Former Vice-President of Sophomore Class Executive Board, Former Student Advisor, Former Assistant to the President

My fundamental issues are revising the tenure process, leveling the playing field between administration, teachers and students, and giving a greater voice to the students by acting in their interests, regardless of my own personal opinion.

- Colman Richard Long' 01 (Candidate, Chair of Multicultural Affairs, SGA Executive Board):

As the Chair of Multicultural Affairs, I would help to improve the level of interaction between the Student Government and the multicultural community of this college.

Julie Anne Lemire' 00 (Candidate, Young Alumni Trustee):

The position of YAT requires that I have a sense of the best that Connecticut College has to offer as well as things that need improvement. Therefore, I am hoping to bring a sense of purposefulness and dedication to the representation of the views of Conn's newest alums to the Board of Trustees. One of the main issues that seems to be growing on campus is the questioning of shared governance. I hope that I will be able to instill upon the Board the importance of not only hearing student opinions but acting upon them. Communication between all facets of governance is extremely important.

Matthew Duncan Moore' 00 (Candidate Young Alumni Trustee):

President of Connecticut College Society of Physics Students (SPS), Former Vice President of SPS and Chair of Physics Advisory Board

The issues that are involved in the YAT election are a little different from the SGA executive board elections, because as a member of the Board of Trustees, you have the power to shape the future of the College. The two fundamental topics that I am addressing are CC downtown and the current budget issues.

College Voice: Are you satisfied with the workings of

the current SGA? Why?

Scott Alan Montemerlo:

As a current senator, I do believe that SGA has done an commendable job this year with what resources we had. The assembly worked hard with the issues that we chose to cover and the information and resources that were available to us. However, it is my opinion that the assembly could have worked harder on getting student opinion in certain situations and taken a more commanding stance on key issues. It is hard to judge how well SGA did this past year, because the role of SGA has taken on so many different meanings. Next year, if elected, I hope to redefine the role of SGA and take a more firm stance on what power we, as students, have to set the agenda of this school.

Jeffrey John Cook:

I am relatively satisfied with the current SGA and have the utmost confidence in the ability and judgment of Minor Myers, the SGA executive board, and the other members of the SGA. The Student Government Association should be completely cognizant of the concerns and opinions of the student body and I believe that this organization has successfully represented and examined those concerns. However, I believe that at times, the SGA suffers from a lack of communication with the students whom they represent. I will attempt to bridge this "communication gap", and ensure that the rest of the school is completely aware of the issues confronting the SGA. In addition, the SGA must continue to pursue this ideal of "shared governance" and press the opinion of the students.

Kedar Koirala:

I have not participated extensively in any SGA project as such. So I don't want to comment on something that I do not have enough information on, but often, I have been satisfied with what SGA has achieved. I don't look at success just in terms of whether SGA has achieved 100% accomplishment of any issue it raises. That may not be possible, because sometimes what may be in the best interest of some or all students may not be in the best interests of the college as a whole. In such cases, I would be satisfied just with the fact that SGA raises the issues and opens up campus-wide discussions and raises awareness among the students. I think being able to raise awareness and opening up discussions among students are also measures of success. For example, SGA has been successfully in its efforts to extend library hours for a few hours past midnight. Another such case concerns NCAA playoffs. Though SGA didn't get the 100% results on this issue, it nevertheless was successful in conveying the students' and student athletes' feelings about the issue so that in future administration would consider students' viewpoint in making any decisions that extensively involves students.

Often SGA has played the role of policing administration or a check on administration. That is probably a minor role that SGA could play, but its larger role would be to work together

with the students and the administration to form a general consensus, because I believe that working together, we could achieve so much more...

I feel that not a lot of students, besides the student leaders, take an active interest in what SGA does and how it works. It is partly the lack of efforts on the part of SGA in that it hasn't been able to attract as much interest from the students, but the greater efforts should stem from the students themselves, because what SGA does influences their lives as much as anybody else's. So, it is their responsibility to know what is happening at SGA. At the same time, SGA should carry out more advertisement and undertake other measures so as to increase student participation in all the discussions.

Brendan Paddy Meehan:

As a house senator with the experience of active participation in SGA, I would have to say that I am satisfied with the current operations of the assembly. The assembly freely discusses important issues and its members speak forthrightly. I honestly believe, however, that there is always room for improvement. If SGA is to be taken seriously by the rest of campus, members of SGA must take their jobs seriously. Senators and representatives in the assembly must come to meetings regularly and attend their respective committee meetings. Additionally, senators and representatives should report back to their dorms on weekly basis, updating them about SGA meetings. If elected, I will work hard to ensure that all of SGA's members attend meetings, report to their dorms, and come to meetings ready to discuss important issues. With these three conditions in place, I believe SGA will run more efficiently and better represent the student body.

Matthew Ross Samet:

I feel that being a part of SGA would be important for me. I feel as though many students do not know, or even care what SGA does most of the time, because for

every interesting issue, there are a bunch of mundane issues. I have been on SGA and this is certainly the truth, but it would be my prerogative to initiate some program to bring students at large to SGA to try to spark an interest in them.

Charles Nathan Olsher:

I am not satisfied with the current SGA. I feel they have allowed shared governance to be eroded at Conn. Students have not done enough to regain student losses in influence.

Colman Richard Long:

The current SGA has not been given the respect it deserves by the administration, President Gaudiani in particular. A group that represents the students, as we do, should not be ignored in such a disgraceful fashion by the President of the College. I hope to work for better relations between SGA and the administration next year.

College Voice: What changes, if any, would you like in the college as a whole?

Scott Alan Montemerlo:

As a whole, I would change the way that the administration views the SGA and student opinion. The largest problem I see on campus today is that people are not offering their opinions because they believe that it really doesn't matter. It is my goal, if elected SGA president, to change this feeling and provide the opportunity for students to voice their opinions and accomplish what they desire. This institution was created for the students and that's how it should be.

Jeffrey John Cook:

The students at this school, much like the majority of society, are somewhat apathetic to the major issues of the college. Although I am unable to propose a solution to the problem at this time, if I were capable of improving or changing one aspect of this college, it would be just that.

Brendan Paddy Meehan:

I believe that Conn College, for the most part, is in good shape. As I mentioned before, however, the concept of shared governance needs to be reworked and reformed. With a structure of shared governance that considers the students more favorably, I believe that the campus, as a whole, will be able to develop a greater understanding of the issues at hand.

Additionally, the Vice President of SGA takes an active role in working with clubs on campus. New clubs must formulate constitutions that are created in close partnership with the Vice President and Constitution Committee. Existing clubs work with the Vice President for their money allocations. If elected, I will work hard to support new, dynamic campus clubs and support existing clubs as well. Inevitably the campus culture will improve with active and financially sound clubs.

Matthew Ross Samet:

The major change I would like to see at this school does not have that much to do with the position of PR Director. Basically, my top priority at this point before I graduate is to gain the level of shared governance that we once enjoyed here. In my freshman year, when I was on the J-Board, it was a whole different scene. This school has changed, and frankly not for the better. That is because students are living in fear of having fun a lot of the time, because they are afraid as many students are no longer really judged by their peers the way it used to be. As PR Director, I would seek to generate greater interest in this school by the students.

Charles Nathan Olsher:

I would like to dramatically increase student influence on campus, to provide a better academic environment.

Colman Richard Long:

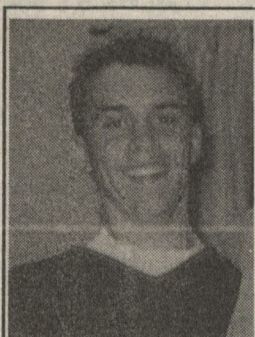
I believe this school needs a real return to the principles of shared governance that we hear about, but don't see put into practice. As students, we need to inform the administration of what we need, then work to get it. A diversity of people results in diversity of ideas. To get the best education possible we should strengthen the climate of multiculturalism and diversity at Conn—not just by the numbers, but in our attitudes and our actions.

Julie Anne Lemire:

The main changes that I would like are increased communications between the Board of Trustees, the administration and students, and increased student involvement with the focus on action regarding students' concerns.

Matthew Duncan Moore:

I would like the College to become more responsible with the endowment. With the current budget problems, it seems as though the college could be doing a better job of figuring out the financial situation and coming up with a solid plan that will help the college and the endowment in the future.



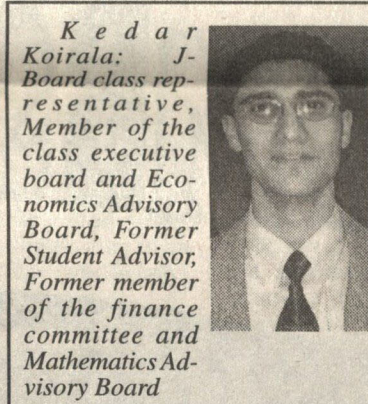
Scott Alan Montemerlo: Wright Senator, Member of the PR Committee, Physical Plant Committee, Floralia Review Committee and Student Bill of Rights Committee, Former Sophomore Class President, Former Smith Senator.



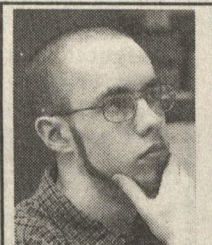
Brendan Paddy Meehan: Larrabee Senator, Intra-mural coordinator, Student Advisor, House Council Member for 2 years



Jeff Cook: Vice President of Junior Class Executive Board, Student Advisor, Member of the Diversity Issues Project, Campus Safety Committee and Counseling Services/Campus Health Service Committee, Former vice-president of the freshman class executive board, Former Freeman Senator.



Kedar Koirala: J-Board class representative, Member of the class executive board and Economics Advisory Board, Former Student Advisor, Former member of the finance committee and Mathematics Advisory Board



Coleman Long: Involvement in "College Voice", Student Government, and Unity House

Good Luck to All the Candidates and be Sure to Turn out for the Elections on Thursday and Friday.

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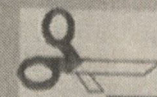
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Features

FRIDAY, APRIL 14, 2000



Conn students often mock the revitalization of New London. "Why are they even bothering? There's nothing to do there anyway," commented one misinformed Camel. How wrong can anyone person be? New London is experiencing a veritable cultural renaissance and the evidence of this was boldly tasted at the Third Annual Fine Wine & Food Festival at the Garde Art Center right in the heart of downtown New London.

The recently renovated Garde could not have been a more perfect setting for the evening. The elegant Moroccan style architecture and furnishings restore the Garde to its former elegance when New London was the cultural center of South Eastern Connecticut. That moniker may soon return, spearheaded by the Garde, with a spring line up that includes the Tony Award Winning *Victor/Victoria*, *Stomp* and *Grease*. Delighted as we were by our fine surroundings, they could not however, please the eyes as much as the scents and tastes that over three hundred other local Epicureans sampled.

Thirty local restaurants offered delicious samplings from their menus from Moroccan Mud Tea to Chilean Sea Bass. And unlike what you would pay in New York and Boston for such indulgence, many of the finest restaurants in New London have surprisingly affordable dishes and specials that fit the budget of almost any college student for a special treat or a random Tuesday when you are tired of the typical Harris offering of Steak Thai Juan or Cod Portugese.

Of course the gracious hosts at the Garde would never leave their guests dying for a drink to wash it all down with. Nearly 80 wines were available for sample and purchase from over 25 vineyards and retailers. Many of the finest and most affordable are made right here in Connecticut and many vineyards offer tours and tastings to all over the age of 21.

Student Restaurants: For A Champagne Taste and Beer Wallet

By ROB KNAKE & JOSH FRIEDLANDER

editor-in-chief & chief oenophile

These are some of the best places to eat out in the area that fit nicely into the constraints of the college budget. Some are pricey in the evenings but have reasonable lunch and breakfast menus while others have "specials" night. A few aren't really restaurants but serve up some other culinary delights, so take note and enjoy.

Lighthouse Inn:

They served up crab cakes with jalepeno remoulade. We don't know what remoulade is, but we sure liked it. In fact, it was so good we figured we'd never be able to afford to eat there. How wrong we were. On Wednesday nights, the Lighthouse Inn has an all you can eat pasta night for 10.95, not as cheap as General Tso's but close, and a whole easier on your palate and your arteries.

Grown Home Herbs:

For the homeopath in each one of us, the fine folks at Grown Home Herbs offered up Moroccan Mud Beverage. Served both hot, cold and spiked, Moroccan Mud is a pungent tea that with a splash of warmed rum went down smooth and soothed the stomach after a night of delightful gastrointestinal adventuring.

Mystic Sweet Shoppe:

Got a tooth for decadent dessert or a handful of sumptuous chocolates? Be sure to check out Mystic Sweet Shoppe just as soon as they recover from the blaze that took out their former place of business. At the Garde, they offered a sumptuous Chocolate Pizza. We'd take it over Domino's any day. Mystic CT, 536-1616.

Anne's Bistro:

Can anyone say Baklava? Can anyone pronounce it? It won't matter, because if you head to Anne's Bistro you won't have time to talk - the deli, bakery and full dinner options are so captivating. The aforementioned baklava was traditional and unadorned but among the best we have tasted.

Thyme&Place:

The Chicken Pasta Primavera was the mainstay of our evening. Surprisingly spicy, it kept us going as we sampled more than eighty wines and lived to tell the tale. Unlike most other vendors, this small operation served up healthy portions and we kept coming back.

Bartelby's Café:

Between the wine and the food, we might have had to check into the Mohegan Hotel if it weren't for the folks at Bartelby's Café. Located on Main Street Mystic, Bartelby's offers a refined atmosphere. At the Garde event, their coffees were both delightful and invaluable.



Free & Company:

They were about the nicest people we met up with and that is saying a lot for the group of cheery merchants and locals that we spent the evening with. They took an old American farm favorite to new heights with their Mediterranean Chicken Salad. Served over a garlic crouton, the bouquet of flavors was quite unrecognizable but equally unbelievable. Savory yet sweet, it was one of our favorites. Their regular menu presents a variety of reasonably priced lunch items all below six dollars. Catering is also available for a club, team or dorm get together. 453 Montauk Avenue, New London 860-437-7712

dining

OUT

Better Beer than Bud

By ROB KNAKE & JOSH FRIEDLANDER

editor-in-chief & chief oenophile

Natty Lite not doing it for you anymore? It's time to head to the big leagues on team Vanberg & DeWulf, brewers of Ommegang and Duvel. Sam Adams is left in the dust with these bottles of suds. Brace yourselves when you check the price tag before pulling the bottle off the shelf, you might drop it. At \$6.95 a 1/2 liter, you better not pour this stuff down a funnel. In fact, you better appreciate the first sips of these beers stone cold sober because with alcohol contents of 8.5% you won't be for long.

Ommegang made us all go "Ohmygod." It is a powerful brew that is best shared among

friends because one person could not force down a whole bottle. A half a glass, however, is a true treasure for any beer lover. Named after the Ommegang Festival held annually in Brussels, Ommegang is estery, with a banana "nose," creamy head, and a rich, garnet color. It is naturally carbonated, yeasty and warming with a dry finish and no hard aftertaste.

Duvel. Who says bud is the king of beers? We know it's an American but the Belgians have got it down. Duvel has a creamy head and a champagne sparkle, with notes of pear and a dry finish. It is truly a beer that wants to be a fine wine. Brewed with a Danish Pilsner-style malt and triple fermented, Duvel is extra-ordinary.



The Best of the Best: If Parents Are Present - Or You've Got Daddy's Platinum VISA

By ROB KNAKE & JOSH FRIEDLANDER

editor-in-chief & chief oenophile

In order to dine at one of these restaurants, you'll need guilty parents who come for a visit, a nouveau riche Wall Street walker from the class of '99, or a big raise from your campus job. But hey, everyone can say "Citibank Visa" and "eighteen percent interest," right? Good. Then you're ready for dinner.

Foxwoods Casino Bistro:

What the heck, you just blew through your laundry money on the slot machines, you might as well dig into your tuition. It might well be worth it. The best dish we tasted was by far the Bistro's Chilean Sea Bass. The light, flaky fish was complimented by both the rich tomato and fish stock sauce and the richer garlic brie sauce.

Mystic Hilton:

We thought that the only place you could catch an elk around here was on the cover of National Geo-



The crabcakes went quickly but the all you can eat pasta bar at the Lighthouse Inn will never run out.

graphic. We were wrong. The Mystic Hilton has it on the menu and you can eat it too - a little tougher than steak, but with a unique flavor. And elk is only one of a dozen unusual

dishes at the local guest spot.

Randall's Ordinary:

There's nothing ordinary about Randall's despite the name. An historically preserved colonial inn and tavern, the folks from Randall's Ordinary served duck while standing at attention in period garb - powdered wigs and pilgrim shoes. The duck was luscious, roasted over an open hearth with the savory flavors of port, orange and thyme. Randall's Ordinary offers a four course prix fixe dinner for \$39.00. Route 2, North Stonington, CT. 860-599-4540

Timothy's: The Place to Dine:

Hold back on the booze for a weekend, save your money and de-

light your senses. Timothy's is worth every cent. Located on Bank Street in the heart of downtown New London, Timothy's is leading the drive to put New London back on the map as a center for fine dining. At the Garde they served up pork spring rolls that outshone the Golden Wok's standard hands down and grilled portobello mushrooms that could turn any carnivore vegan - just so long as they could eat at Timothy's every day.

Tony D's:

Waxy winter tomatoes don't top Tony D's bruschetta. This Italian chophouse opts instead for a hearty marinara and crumbled sausage. Tony D's large portions and friendly service are big selling points. The décor says GoodFellas, the owner says Godfather but your stomach will say thank you, especially if you order up one of their choice Angus steaks or chops. The bar offers up a great lower priced bar menu that will beat out the stale chips at Margarita's every day of the week - and twice on Ash Wed.

YUPPIE 101: Wines for Any Taste Or Budget

By ROB KNAKE & JOSH FRIEDLANDER

editor-in-chief & chief oenophile

Wine: All wines and spirits are available at the Yellow Front Package Store

Our Favorites:

McLaughlin's Connecticut Coyote. Light and refreshing, this demi-sec white wine was comfortably acidic but did not overpower its pleasant fruity character.

Robert Mondavi's Vichon Mediterranean Viognier (V own Yea) was our favorite red. With over eighty wines to sample, you know what's good when everyone asks for a second glass. When we asked for what was good, we were told that we wouldn't forget it. We haven't. Priced at \$9.99.

Sharpe Hill Vineyards Ballet of Angels. Who doesn't love the home-grown local flavor. If you thought that grapes couldn't grow in Connecticut you were wrong. Judging by Ballet of Angels, they not only grow, they thrive. A true wine connoisseur at the festival told us that a good wine re-

quires a harsh climate. "That's why the pleasant Napa Valley produces delightful grape juice and Connecticut Wines are the secret of any true devotee." We don't know if he is right but Ballet of Angels makes us think he is. This was our last tasting of the evening but we wish it were our first. We would have kept going back.

Served very well chilled, the wine was crisp, semi-dry with a floral bouquet and refreshing citrus undertones.

Schisani Vineyards: We wish we could afford a weeks wages on wine. Then we would drink their Sonoma Cask Merlot every day. When \$28 dollars doesn't seem like

a small fortune, we plan to. Merlot has become so popular that the truly refined regard it as only a step up from white zinfandel. Sebastiani proves such snobs wrong. Their merlot has a rich, ripe flavor that no man could scoff at. The wine has a complex bouquet with expressive flavors of plum, and blueberry and hints of olive, herbs and mocha.

Angelini Wines Angelini Merlot - After the Sebastiani this was our favorite. Not as bold, but some like it that way. The wine is dry and medium bodied, oak aged with sumptuous dark berry flavors.

Luna di Luna Piccini Chianti

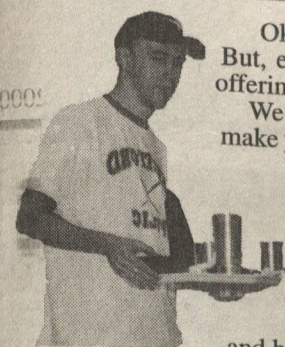
D.O.C.G. - The server told us it went great with pizza. We told her it sounded like our kind of wine. This is not a \$20 chianti, but you might think it was. Priced at \$7.99.

Luna di Luna Leone De Castri Salice Salentino Riserva - We don't know if the guys right, but the server told us that there is nothing you can say about it except that it is good. Very good. This red Italian table wine was a crowd pleaser and is reportedly the favorite of Gordon's Yellow Front Package store owner Ed Cramer, a local expert. Well priced, it will blow your mind without blowing a hole through your wallet. \$11.49.

Canandaigua - We know, if we were really sophisticated we wouldn't have even stopped to sample the arbor mist but we are glad we did. Sparkling, light, sweet and fruit flavor - ie, easy drinking. Most college students already know about the best tasting alcoholic beverage you can buy for under five bucks but if you don't, turn the other cheek to the posh and grab your self a bottle. They even come in real glass. We recommend the Peach Chardonnay. \$9.95



Tim Herrick, former Voice editor receives a fine glass of Arbor Mist 2000 on stage at the Garde Arts Center



Ok, there's no denying that Steak Thai Jaun is a crowd pleaser. And Tortellini a la Conn is decadent in its own right. But, every once in a while, it's nice to have a few options. That's why, for the truly inspired gourmets, *The Voice* is offering a few recipe ideas to spice up those dining hall experiences. We've picked the brains of some of Connecticut College's finest creative forces to come up with a few dishes that may make your evenings in Harris just a little more rewarding. It's amazing what you can do with a salad bar, a microwave, and a little bit of ingenuity. We've got recipes that cater to vegetarians and carnivores alike. Something to satisfy your sweet-tooth or spice up your life. No matter who you are, you'll find something here that appeals to you. And these recipes aren't written in stone. If you have any personal innovations that you feel could improve one of these dishes, feel free. Don't eat chicken? Substitute some of our "Perfect Steamed Broccoli" for the chicken in our "Chicken Curry." Allergic to raspberries? Substitute cherry sauce for the raspberry sauce in our "Chocolate Raspberry Waffle." Whatever your tastes, you'll be to surprised to see just how amply Harris caters to them. Open your mind to the range of possibilities that lie in the salad bar and beyond. Feed your stomach and satisfy your creative appetite at the same time. The following food ideas are designed to help make your mealtimes fun. Isn't that what eating's all about?

dining IN

Delighting Your Palate: A Few Solutions to Your Dining Hall Doldrums

By COLEY WARD & AMY PALMER

features editor and contributing writer

Chocolate Raspberry Waffle

- heat one waffle
- sprinkle with chocolate chips immediately after removing from waffle iron.
- top with vanilla ice cream, and drizzle warm raspberry sauce over the top.
- whipped cream and a cherry are optional.

- oil and parmesan cheese.
- add oregano, garlic powder, basil
- options: cut up veggies, grilled chicken, tomato, or tomato with cilantro

Good Morning Granola (version 1)

- mix granola with plain yogurt, honey, raisins, cranberries, and almonds

Good Morning Granola (version 2):

- mix granola with honey, chopped apples, cinnamon, raisins and milk
- heat until steaming mush.

Poppy Seed Tuna Wrap

- take a plain wrap and a scoop of tuna and add lettuce, tomato, and poppy seed dressing.
- *note - poppy seed dressing is the key to any decent tuna wrap or tuna salad.

Best Cinnamon Toast

- thoroughly toast two pieces of cinnamon raisin bread. Top with butter, sugar, and cinnamon.

Fondue

- melt chocolate chips in small dish in microwave.
- dip apple slices, pear slices, or bananas in melted chocolate.

Super Stuffed Quesadillas

- take a jalepeno wrap on a plate and cover half of it with about 8 slices of American or cheddar cheese.
- add tomato and any desired spices
- toasting is key. The trick is to run it through slowly enough for the wrap to toast so the quesadilla doesn't fall apart as it flips over on the conveyor belt. As it approaches the perilous decent, speed up the toaster speed so it flips over quickly and in one piece.
- cut toasted wrap into wedges and dip into salsa or sour cream.

Perfect Parmesan Pasta

- in a long pasta bowl toss pasta with olive



Nachos

- take grilled chicken, salsa, cheese, peppers, and onions and heat over nacho chips in microwave.

Root Beer Float

- put two scoops of vanilla ice cream in a glass of root beer. It's just that easy.

Grilled Cheese

- take white bread, American cheese and run through the toaster on slowest speed.

Curry Chicken

- 3 spoonfuls plain yogurt from salad bar
- 1 small squirt of Ketchup
- heaping spoonful of chopped onion
- tablespoon of curry power (from spice rack next to microwave)
- 1 piece grilled chicken

- mix first five ingredients in microwaveable bowl for about a minute until bubbly
- dice chicken
- add the sauce
- serve over rice with steamed vegetables.

Perfect Steamed Broccoli

- start with a small bowl of fresh broccoli from salad bar.
- briefest of squirts of water from the beverage fountain.
- place another white bowl on top and microwave for 1 min and 15 seconds.
- voila

Bagel Pizza

- expertly slice a bagel in half
- apply a layer of marinara sauce to both halves
- sprinkle with basil and oregano
- add any additional toppings
- top with grated cheese
- microwave till cheese is bubbly

Banana Peanut Wrap

- Spread flour wrap with peanut butter
- optional additions: sunflower seeds, honey, Fluff
- wrap whole banana and go

*If you have any recipes that you would like to share with the voice, email them to Coley Ward, Features Editor and official Voice Cuisinart, at cmwar@conncoll.edu.

Dinner for Twelve Strangers Brings Conn College Alumni, Students and Staff Together

By COLEY WARD

features editor

Of all the cultural events that Connecticut College sponsors over the course of an academic year, the "Dinner with Twelve Strangers" may be the best. I can think of few activities that offer as much in the way of promoting discussion, communication between faculty and students, and most importantly, good food.

The Dinner with 12 Strangers is actually a weeklong event. Every night during that week a different Connecticut College alumni hosts a dinner for a mix of 12 Conn students, staff, and professors. The goal of the affair is to create a bond between alumni and the college community.

My personal experience didn't adhere strictly to the guidelines of the dinner. Due to a couple of cancellations, there were actually only ten of us; and we weren't all strangers. My roommate, Paul, was among the nine people that I sat down with that evening. Still, it was a reasonably informal affair, and we didn't let a few discrepancies slow us down.

Paul and I met some of our fellow invitees half an hour before the dinner and piled into the (some sort of sport utility vehicle) that would serve as our means of transport to and from the dinner. We arrived at Holly Camerota's house a little early, but she was ready nonetheless. Clearly a veteran of this sort of thing, Mrs.

Camerota MAT '98 greeted us warmly, handing out nametags and ushering us into the kitchen for appetizers and drinks.

The guests at the dinner consisted of two seniors, Eric Gammel and Rachel Godfrey, two juniors, Vedat Gashi and Sarah Kelly-Mudie, and two freshmen, Paul Bovet and myself. Newly hired Vice President for Administration, Ulysses Hammond, Prof. of History, Bruce Kirmmse, and Trish Brink of College Relations, rounded out the mix.

Eric Gammel '00 and Vedat Gashi '01, both international relations majors, frequently talked about politics, and Ulysses Hammond along with Professor Bruce Kirmmse, were more than willing to contribute to the conversation.

Reflecting the diverse group gathered at the table, the talk ranged from travel experiences to Conn's history to internet pornography. Prof. Kirmmse related for everyone the true story of how Connecticut College picked its mascot, while my roommate Paul tried to add to the conversation on pornography without revealing the true extent of his knowledge.

Mrs. Camerota prepared two different kinds of pasta, recipes that she said came from her mother-in-law. For dessert we enjoyed tiramisu and carrot cake. The food was great and guests that night, despite our many differences, all seemed to share an appreciation for the luxury of being able to step out of the daily routine.

"Persuade your neighbors to compromise whenever you can. Point out to them how the nominal winner is often a real loser - in fees, expenses, and waste of time. As a peacemaker, the lawyer has a superior opportunity of being a good person."

- Abraham Lincoln

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CamelSports

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FRIDAY, APRIL 14, 2000



Conn College goes on the offense against a weak M.I.T. team on Saturday April eighth on Harkness Green. The 14 - 7 victory marked a turn-around, and began a two game winning streak. (Brown)

Men's Lacrosse Team Wins Two in a Row

By CHARLES HASSELL
sports editor

At first glance, one might not be too impressed by the current men's lacrosse record of 3-6. However, upon looking further into the matter one might find a team that has only lost one game (vs. Middlebury on March 25th) by a large margin. The other six losses have been determined by one or two end-of-game goals, and this team could easily be 8-1. The bottom line: this is a talented, albeit young, team with the potential to win every remaining game on their schedule.

After their rocky start, the men

knew they were out of the running for an NCAA bid, so they set their sites on the ECAC championship. After a frustrating one goal loss on April 5th against Wesleyan, the men realized even an ECAC bid could be out of reach if they didn't start winning. Led by dominant senior captains Jamie Keough and Parker sides, the men did just that.

On Saturday, April 8th the Camels dished out a 14-7 stompin' to a hapless MIT squad. After that ego-booster the men made it two in a row with an impressive win over Tufts, 15-4. Considering the Tufts game was very close last year, and they

have the same team this year, it is definitely a big win for our guys. Hopefully this recent win streak can carry over to Saturday's big home match-up against Skidmore at 3 p.m. on Harkness Green.

Sophomore middle John Richardson offered these words, "The team morale is really high right now. We have a positive outlook, and we have our goal set: to win the ECAC. We have two strong leaders in Parker [Sides] and Jamie [Keough], and we are determined to not let our early losses keep us down." Well said John, we wish the team luck in finishing up the season well.



The Lady Camels put one past Amherst's swarming defense in this near victory two weeks ago. Since then, it has been Connecticut College who has done the swarming, rocketing into the national rankings. (Brown)

Women's Lacrosse Team Winning; Welch Named Player-of-the-Week

By CHARLES HASSELL
sports editor

After beginning the season with three straight losses, including a thrashing at the hands of Amherst on April 1st, the women's lac team was not exactly looking good. However, in a matter of a week, the Lady Camels have gelled behind senior star Meghan Welch to pull off some impressive victories.

The turnaround game took place at Trinity on April 4th. Despite Trinity's perennial talent and then 15th

ranking nationally, Conn College was unintimidated. Welch scored four goals in a hard fought victory for the camels, 6-4. The second stop on the whoop-ass tour took Conn to Colby College, then ranked 17th in the nation. The women of New London were seemingly invincible, dishing out an 11-5 beat-down that included the game's final seven goals. Sophomore goalie Elayna Zachko made 12 saves, and Welch was spectacular again, scoring three goals to go with four assists.

On April 10, Welch was named

the New England Small College Athletic Conference (NESCAC) Player-of-the-Week for her troubles. Her 11 point week (7 goals, 4 assists) made her the team leader in goals (15), assists (8), and points (23), and she is currently tied for fifth in NESCAC scoring.

The women's team has risen to 17th in the nation, and they look to improve again when they take on Mt. Holyoke on April 13 at 4:30 pm. The ladies will be home again on Saturday, April 15th versus Middlebury, check 'em out.

Soccer Standout Earns All-Star Spot

By CHARLES HASSELL
sports editor

Connecticut College men's soccer standout Jay Lilien '00 has brought honor to his school and his program. He is one of 41 Division III players selected to play in the 2000 New England Intercollegiate Soccer

League (NEISL) Senior All-Star Game at Brandeis University on May 5th.

Lilien is a midfielder who completed his senior year with the Camels tied for first in scoring with eight points (2 goals, 4 assists). A four-year member of the men's soccer pro-

gram at Conn, Lilien ranks 11th on the all-time scoring list with 53 points (18 goals, 17 assists). As a sophomore in 1997, he was Second Team All-New England Small College Athletic Conference (NESCAC) selection. He is a 1996 graduate of Portsmouth High School.

Probably Never Gets an Award...

By CHARLES HASSELL
sports editor

First he was NESCAC Player-of-the-Year. Then he was an ECAC First Team All-Star selection. And the accolades continue this week. I think

NBA scouts are starting to take notice of this guy.

Men's basketball star Kareem Tatum '01 was recognized yet again for his on-court talent, this time being named as one of the 16 players on the National Association of Basketball Coaches (NABC) Division III

All-America team. Tatum earned Second Team All-America honors after averaging 19.3 points, 7 rebounds, and 3 assists per game, and he also shot .424 from behind the arc. Congratulations again Mr. Tatum, you deserve it.

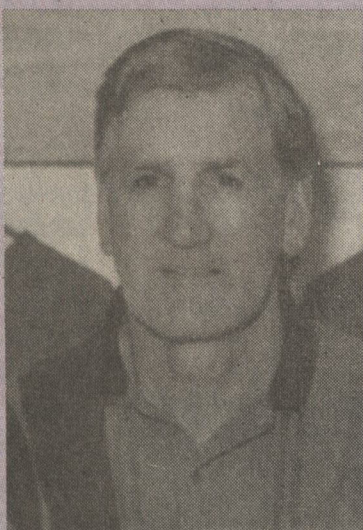
Men's Hockey Coach Receives Award from Alma Mater

By CHARLES HASSELL
sports editor

On Monday, April 10th Conn College men's ice hockey coach Doug Roberts was honored by his alma mater, Michigan State (MSU). He received the Distinguished Alumnus Award at the men's ice hockey banquet in Lansing, Michigan. This award is given annually to a former MSU hockey player to honor his achievements before and after graduation.

Roberts was born in Detroit, and he graduated from MSU in 1965, where he was a two-sport standout in football and hockey. As a forward on the Spartan hockey team, Roberts was a First-Team All-America and a Western Collegiate Hockey Association All-Star during his senior year. He was the team's captain and MVP during his senior campaign, and he led the squad with 33 assists and 61 points. In football, Roberts lettered his sophomore and junior years, and caught 3 passes for 46 yards and 1 touchdown.

Following his impressive collegiate career, Roberts played in the NHL for 10 seasons (1965-75) for the Detroit Red Wings, the Oakland/California Seals, and the Boston Bruins. In the course of his career he scored 147 points (43 goals, 104 assists) in 419 games. His finest season in Detroit came



Coach Doug Roberts (courtesy)

in 1967-68, when he played 37 games and scored 17 points (8 goals, 9 assists).

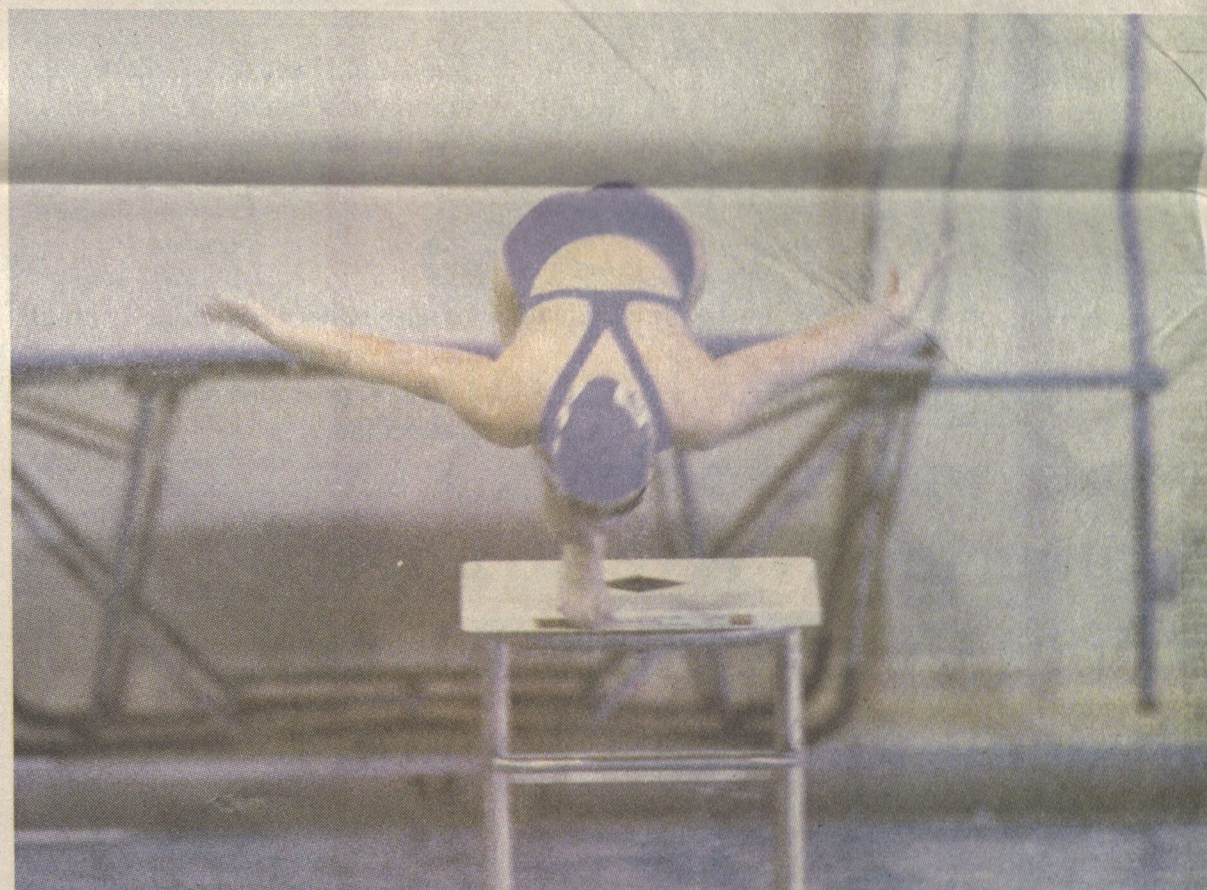
Then in 1971 he made the NHL All-Star Team with the Seals, and he played for the Bruins the following year during their Stanley Cup Championship Season. In 1975 Roberts continued his pro career in the World Hockey Association with the fledgling Hartford Whalers, appearing in 140 games in 3 seasons. Roberts just completed his 21st season as head coach at Connecticut College. He has a lifetime record of 230-211-19.

Camel Swimmers Win Academic All American Team Award

By CHARLES HASSELL
sports editor

For the second consecutive season, the men's and women's swimming and diving teams have earned recognition from the College Swimming Coaches Association of America (CSCAA). Connecticut College was awarded the CSCAA Academic All-America Team Award for the 1999-2000 season, based on fall semester grades. In order to qualify for the award, the entire swimming and diving squad must have at least a 2.8 on a 4.0 scale.

The men's team not only qualified, but completed the fall with a team GPA of 3.289, which ranked them fourth in the country among 30 Division III men's teams. Only Hendrix College (3.61), Emory University (3.49), and Colorado College (3.29) had higher team grade point averages. The women's team was also impressive, posting a 3.33 GPA, good for 12th out of 45 Division III women's teams eligible for the award. Congratulations to these dedicated men and women for epitomizing the Connecticut College student-athlete.



Coach Ralph's men's and women's swimming and diving teams score points in and out of the pool. (Bluestone)



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